

A
A
0
0
0
0
2
0
0
9
6
4



UF SOUTHERN REGIONAL LIBRARY FACILITY



THE LIBRARY
OF
THE UNIVERSITY
OF CALIFORNIA
LOS ANGELES

EDWIN STANTON FICKES

— HIS BOOK —

A.B.C.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2007 with funding from
Microsoft Corporation





EDITED BY

JOHN L. VANCE



THE GREAT FLOOD OF 1884

IN THE
OHIO VALLEY





THE
GREAT FLOOD OF 1884
IN THE
OHIO VALLEY.

THE RISE AND FALL OF THE WATERS FROM PITTSBURGH
TO CAIRO, WITH ACCOUNTS OF THE DESTRUCTION
OF PROPERTY, AND INCIDENTS BY EYE-WIT-
NESSES AND SUFFERERS; TOGETHER WITH
USEFUL AND IMPORTANT INFORMA-
TION AND STATISTICS.

ALSO,

THE WORK OF THE GALLIPOLIS RELIEF COMMITTEE.

EDITED BY

JOHN L. VANCE.

GALLIPOLIS, O.:
THE BULLETIN OFFICE;
1884.

COPYRIGHTED 1884, BY JOHN L. VANCE.

F
519
V27g

THE STORY OF THE FLOOD OF 1884.

A new leaf must be added to the history of our country ; not a pleasant one, but one of the saddest and most calamitous with which our people have ever been visited. It is not our purpose, in adding this leaf, to enter into exhaustive details, and dwell at great length upon the hundreds and thousands of sad but interesting incidents in connection therewith, but to present, in a brief and comprehensive form, an account of

THE GREAT FLOOD

that rendered desolate, for the time being, the beautiful Ohio Valley, extending from Pittsburgh to Cairo. It is a calamity, the like of which no living man ever saw before in this Valley or that of the Mississippi. Nor is there any well defined tradition handed down by the aborigines of any such occurrence during the ages the country must have been occupied by them. The widespread ruin it has wrought it will take years to repair, and the usands will never be able to resurrect their industries nor recuperate their fallen fortunes. We trust that it may not be the fate of the inhabitants of this Valley to ever again be compelled to cope with such a combination of circumstances as produced it.

During the preceding month of January we experienced the severest and most intense cold of the century. There were several heavy snow storms extending over a vast extent of territory, embracing New York, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Kentucky, Indiana and Ohio. Snow was reported four feet deep in the mountains, and it covered the hills and

valleys of all the tributary streams of the Ohio River. The proverbial "January thaw" did not come with its accustomed vigor. The weather moderated towards the close of the month at intervals, but before the great snow falls had been converted into water and found their way to the channel of the river, they would be caught and locked in the icy embrace of returning cold in all of the small streams and rivulets. However, with the expiring days of January came mild, moderate weather, that began to start the ice gorges in the Allegheny, Monongahela, Youghioghenny, and in the interior of Ohio. There was less than the usual amount of damage at headwaters by the breaking of these gorges, by reason of all the headwater streams being well in bank, as was also the Ohio River to its mouth. Steamboat navigation was beginning to resume, business was reported very active at many points, and the usual awakening of hope and cheerfulness, after the severe cold, had begun to inspire confidence, enterprise and life in the whole Valley for nine hundred miles.

So much for an introductory to our little history of this ever-to-be-remembered deluge. In order to get as many facts in as small a compass as is consistent with our purpose, we shall arrange the revelations of each day under the date of their occurrence, beginning with

FEBRUARY 2.

On this date the weather was reported clear and pleasant throughout the whole length and breadth of the Valley.

The Allegheny and Monongahela were reported falling. At Wheeling and Ironton the river was stationary. The Kanawha and Licking Rivers were falling.

FEBRUARY 3.

The Monongahela had fallen nearly five feet in the last twenty-four hours, standing at twelve feet nine inches. At Wheeling, Pomeroy, Point Pleasant and Gallipolis the river, though in rather robust stage, was falling. At Ironton, Cincinnati, Evansville, Louisville, Cairo and Memphis it was rising, and at Cincinnati had reached forty-nine feet nine and one-half inches, and had begun to excite sufficient interest to

cause the inquiry, "How high do you think it will go?" Some said, "It's about as high now as it will get." Others said, "It may go to fifty-five feet here;" but none thought of sixty or sixty-five feet, although on this very day it was twenty-three feet higher than it was on February 3d, 1883, rising rather rapidly, and threatening rain. On the night of the 3d it was advancing so rapidly at Cincinnati that arriving steamers would not discharge their freight upon the landing, for fear of it being reached before morning; and the towboats in that vicinity began to take an active interest in the situation, and there was a slamming and banging and restless moving all night, among every sort of craft.

FEBRUARY 4.

Things began to look ominous for a repetition of 1883, though it was not a certainty. The weather was warm, and raining at Pittsburgh, Wheeling, Marietta, Pomeroy, Point Pleasant, Charleston, Gallipolis, Portsmouth, Boston Station on the Licking, Cincinnati, Madison, Evansville, Louisville and Cairo, but falling between Pittsburgh and Maysville. At Cincinnati, however, it continued to rise, and marked fifty-one and one-half feet, and rising.

FEBRUARY 5.

The situation now began to be alarming indeed, all along the river. Heavy rains throughout its entire length, of twenty to thirty hours' duration, were beginning to tell. The weather was yet mild, and it was known that there was yet much snow in the mountains, and that the warm and heavy rains must not only melt it rapidly, but dissolve the ice covering the whole land area of the Valley and reaching far into the interior on both sides of the Ohio River, bringing every tributary stream to its highest point.

At Pittsburgh, the greatest apprehensions were felt of a disastrous flood, especially among those whose homes were along the banks of the Allegheny and Monongahela. Stocks of goods and household effects were at once taken in all haste to more elevated positions, and the day was spent industriously in endeavoring to meet what all felt certain now would come—the highest water since a year before. From Parkersburg, Pomeroy, Point Pleasant, Charleston, Gallipolis, Huntington, Catlettsburg, Ironton, Portsmouth, Carrollton, Frankfort, Madison, Evansville and Louisville there was but one cry—

"RISING AND RAINING!"

These were words of terrible import to hundreds of thousands of people who already saw the banks in front of them full at many places, and who knew that in a few hours at furthest the resistless waters would be engulfing them even where yet to this moment they had rested in fancied security that the flood of 1883 would not be repeated in half a century, and possibly never again. "Rising and raining" at every point told them only too certainly of disaster, devastation and irreparable loss. It sounded like a death knell in the ears of the poor and needy, many of whom had already been waiting for weeks for the opening of mills, mines, navigation and all species of industry, and whose very existence depended on the speedy opening of uninterrupted business. Thousands in the towns and cities sat up till midnight to hear the latest telegrams, and when they came they conveyed intelligence even more gloomy and foreboding.

At Pittsburgh, the water had reached a point higher than at any time since 1865, while the Kanawha, Big Sandy, Muskingum and Scioto were reported overflowing and pouring their angry and wasteful waters into the great river of the Valley. At Cincinnati, the water had now reached a height of fifty-five feet three inches, and was rising at the rate of four inches an hour. At Wheeling, it was thirty feet, and rising a foot an hour. At Louisville, in that part of the city known as "The Point," the inhabitants spent the night in moving their household goods from their habitations to higher ground. White River, at Indianapolis, was within six feet of the highest point ever reached, and the rain coming down in torrents. At Falmouth, Ky., it had been raining continuously for forty-eight hours. Trains were delayed by landslides. Licking River was running over and rising eight inches an hour. At Cleveland, the Cuyahoga was higher than at any time during the flood of last year. The Valley Railroad, and the Cleveland & Pittsburgh Road between Newburg and Bradford, were under the water in many places. At Canton, streets and cellars were full of water in the northwestern part of the city. The Valley and Connotton Railroads were disabled, and trains had to be abandoned on the Coshocton Division of the Connotton Road. The Mahoning River was booming, and at Youngstown was overflowing its banks and driving many families from their homes, and rising rapidly. At Findlay, the Blanchard River was

inundating a portion of the city, pouring into the gas-works and driving people from the lower end of the town. The village of Arlington, that county, was flooded, and a large amount of lumber swept away. Trains were delayed at Akron by flood damages, and a large iron bridge over the Cuyahoga at Peninsula was weighted down with heavy stone to hold it in place. The Ottawa River was out of its banks at Lima. Hocking River was carrying everything before it, and at Nelsonville the indications pointed to a great flood.

This was the situation at midnight from all points of the compass on the 5th of February. Could it do otherwise than carry consternation and dismay to every inhabitant of the Ohio Valley whose home was on the bank of the Ohio, to know that every turbulent tributary of that mighty stream was adding its force and weight to this already mighty ocean of water? At Cincinnati, its waves and swells were already splashing over the curbstones at the corner of Second Street and the Public Landing, and climbing higher and higher with each succeeding wish-wash, which kept up with unvarying and monotonous melody. The Cincinnati, Washington & Baltimore Road stopped receiving freight in the afternoon. Steamboat navigation was about suspended. All the inhabitants of Millcreek were preparing for the very worst. Thousands of head of cattle were being removed, at great expense and trouble, to the Stock Yards. Abe Furst, a dealer, had 4,000 head that had to be removed with all possible expedition. The situation at Newport was a mournful one to contemplate. Already visited by a flood in two successive years, she was now preparing for a third visitation, and with every prospect of far greater calamity than before. One hundred families left their homes on this day. Many were deserving of the kindest pity. The business disarrangement of the city had thrown many out of employment for months, and their scanty supplies were even now about exhausted, and here was cruel fate tossing them in a heap entirely upon the charity of the world. Six feet more of water—that none doubted now would come—would put out the fires of many mills, and anxious and worried faces were seen on every hand. The same state of affairs existed at Covington. Fear and anxiety were depicted on every countenance—the rich and well-to-do as well as the poor. At ill-fated Lawrenceburg the situation was desperate. Six thousand inhabitants, who had, in the flood of 1883, endured enough of such experiences for an ordinary life-time, waited with fear and trembling the

fearful onset of 1884. In the meantime, however, they had not been idle. Fully one thousand families had moved from their homes to places of greater safety, to avoid the remorseless tide that seemed to have no limit. The public schools had closed; court had adjourned; all business save that of taking care of property was suspended. Watchmen patrolled the levee to give the first note of a break by the waters. The anxiety was so great that hundreds neither ate nor slept. The sick, the aged and infirm, and children of tender years were removed to places of safety and placed in charge of committees appointed to take care of them. The hurry and panic of all this was like the evacuation of an army before the advent of superior forces. It baffles all attempt at description.

FEBRUARY 6.

Business was now entirely suspended at Pittsburgh. The Allegheny gas-works were flooded, and that city and a large portion of Pittsburgh were in total darkness, and the rain still came down in torrents. The water was nearly as high as in 1832, and rising, the damage up to this time amounting to \$2,000,000. At Wheeling, it marked forty-three feet and rising, with steady rain. At Marietta, forty-one feet and rising, with steady rain. At Pomeroy, forty-five feet; rising four inches an hour and raining. At Point Pleasant, forty-six feet six inches; rising three inches an hour and raining; everybody moving out of the lower end of the town; nothing short of 1883 expected, and every preparation possible being made to receive it; the space under the suspension bridge only forty-six feet. At Charleston, the Kanawha was stationary, with only nineteen feet in the channel, but raining, and a rise momentarily expected. At Gallipolis, the river had risen five feet in twenty-four hours, and was still advancing three inches an hour, and lacking only eight feet of February 9th, 1883. The creeks of Gallia County were all reported full and overflowing. The rain had fallen incessantly for twenty-four hours. The thermometer marked fifty-eight degrees, and there was no mistaking the indications. The Bostona, Captain John W. Holloway, went to the bank here and discharged her crew, by the order of Superintendent Chas. M. Holloway, of the Big Sandy Packet Company. No mail arrived, owing to the flood in the Hocking River and the carrying away of the large bridge at Logan.

At Ironton, the river marked forty-eight feet three inches and rising, with heavy rain. At Portsmouth, fifty feet six

inches, and rising three inches an hour was reported. Licking River was booming all along the line, and heavy rains reported from head to mouth. At Madison and Louisville the same cry went up—"raining and rising three inches an hour." The prospect was indeed gloomy. Between Evansville and Paducah one million bushels of corn was reported to be lying in the fields that it was impossible to move, and which must be swept away.

At Cincinnati, ten miles of river front were being swept by raging waters, and the greatest excitement prevailed. The First Regiment and Second Battery went on duty, supplementing the police force in the preservation of life and property. A floating relay of fire engines was placed in readiness to render further assistance to the beleaguered city in case of need. At midnight the height of water measured sixty-one feet, only five feet four inches less than in 1883. General Hazen's dispatch from Washington added to the intensity of the excitement. It was as follows:

CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICE, WASHINGTON, February 6, 1884.

From two to three inches of rain reported in the Ohio Valley during the last twenty-four hours. River rising rapidly at all points. Seven to eight feet above the danger line at all points from Louisville northward. Floods will increase, and prove very destructive. Give general warning. Property and stock should be removed to points above the danger line. Floods will reach the Mississippi early next week.

W. B. HAZEN, Chief Signal Officer.

It was a mournful day at Cincinnati. Business men went about as if a leaden weight were already hung to their heavy hearts. Nothing was thought about or talked of but the deluge, and speculations as to where it was likely to stop and when it would end. The Chamber of Commerce met, but transacted no commercial business. It voted to duplicate its donation to the relief fund last year of \$5,000, and started a subscription that in less than twenty minutes augmented the donation to about \$8,000. The Legislature was requested to authorize the City Comptroller to borrow a sum not exceeding \$100,000 for the use of the Relief Committee of the Common Council. The Relief Committee organized with H. C. Urner, President; S. F. Dana, Treasurer, and Colonel Sidney D. Maxwell, Secretary. The southwest corner of Fourth and Race streets was chosen as headquarters. Committees on food, on clothing and on various things needful were at once appointed, and went immediately to work. "The Associated Charities" met and organized an Executive Committee, and

the great city, with its 260,000 inhabitants, was in fighting trim to save life if it could not save property. The streets presented a wierd and woeful appearance. The following extract from a Cincinnati paper will give the reader an intelligent idea of the situation, and his imagination can depict the details :

" At the foot of every street, as far east as Elm, were skiffs, yawls, improvised flats, and other light crafts engaged in removing property of poor people who had been driven from their homes. Wagons were hurrying through mud and water, removing portable property from manufactories, the teams being driven as never wagon teams had been driven before. One small wagon, on the cover of which was painted the name of a yeast company, was suggestive of a further rise.

" Families were congregated on sidewalks, the mothers and eldest children carrying the smallest children, and the children of medium size carrying chairs, tables, and other house property that would float, and all jostling and pushing one another as though time was to them of great importance in the effort to get in each other's way, and thereby accomplish as little as possible."

The view of Covington and Newport from the bridges presented to the eye a sea of desolate waters, with partially inundated dwellings and manufactories, and fleeing people in the streets, many of them with all they possessed loaded in a wagon or on a dray, with husband, wife and children following along behind, seeking safety. A thousand houses at least were under water in Newport. Boats and barges and all sorts of river property moved oftentimes far out from shore with a net work of cables, the bridge itself being only approachable by boats, the water covering the first floor of every building on the Public Landing at Cincinnati, and in the second stories of buildings at the foot of Commercial Row, Walnut Street and Broadway, and extending up Sycamore and Main Streets, and Broadway north of Second Street.

At Loveland, the Little Miami was playing sad havoc. The city was full of homeless people and wrecked and wasted property. The same was true at Miamiville, Milford, Morrow, Plainville and Middletown. At Columbus, travel was suspended on nearly all roads centering there, in consequence of the washing away of tracks, bridges, trestles and culverts, and the telegraph service was in a badly crippled state. The Scioto, Hocking and Hockhocking were all dangerously high, getting higher, and doing great damage to railroads, farmers and villages. At Steubenville, the water had reached a height never before known. The Susquehanna was exciting alarm

at points in Maryland. The Wabash was sweeping away bridges and all sorts of property in Indiana. The flood was on the increase in Western Pennsylvania, and the Schuylkill was doing great damage at Philadelphia.

FEBRUARY 7.

The first thing on Thursday morning, February 7th, was Chief Signal Service Officer General W. B. Hazen's telegram of warning, dated and reading as follows :

WASHINGTON, February 7—1 A. M.

The floods will increase in the Ohio, and be very disastrous. Property should be removed to points above the high water mark of the floods of last year. The floods will extend to the Mississippi, between Cairo and Memphis.

At this hour it was marking sixty-one feet and one-fourth of an inch at Cincinnati, or only three feet three and three-fourths inches less than it marked at five o'clock on the morning of February 15th, 1883, when it stood at sixty-six feet four inches. It would seem that the warning was almost superfluous from the fact that on this day the Monongahela and Allegheny were stationary, having touched their highest points. At Pittsburgh, the Monongahela, by which all comparisons are made, registered thirty-four feet, or only twelve inches less than it did February 10th, 1832, its highest known mark, as will be seen by the following record of big floods in Pittsburgh since 1832 :

	<i>Ft. In.</i>		<i>Ft. In.</i>
Feb. 10, 1832.....	35 0	Dec. 14, 1873.....	25 7
Feb. 10, 1840.....	26 9	Jan. 8, 1874.....	22 4
Feb. 1, 1847.....	26 0	Dec. 30, 1874.....	21 4
April 19, 1852.....	31 9	August 3, 1875.....	21 9
April, 1858.....	26 0	Dec. 28, 1875.....	21 8
April 12, 1860.....	29 7	Sept. 18, 1876.....	23 5
Sept. 29, 1861.....	30 9	Jan. 17, 1877.....	23 7
Jan. 20, 1862.....	28 7	Dec. 11, 1878.....	24 6
April 22, 1862.....	25 4	Jan. 29, 1879.....	20 0
March 4, 1865.....	24 0	March 12, 1879.....	20 0
March 18, 1865.....	31 4	Feb. 14, 1880.....	22 0
April 1, 1865.....	21 6	Feb. 10, 1881.....	25 0
May 12, 1865.....	21 6	June 10, 1881.....	28 0
Feb. 15, 1867.....	22 0	Jan. 28, 1882.....	21 9
March 13, 1867.....	22 6	Feb. 22, 1882.....	21 6
March 18, 1868.....	22 0	Feb. 5, 1883.....	25 0
April 15, 1868.....	20 6	Feb. 8, 1883.....	27 6
April 11, 1872.....	20 6		

The Allegheny registered thirty-four feet six inches. At Wheeling, there was fifty-one feet of water, and rising; at Charleston, West Virginia, twenty feet and rising; at Gallipolis, still rising three inches an hour, as it had been for thirty-six hours; at Huntington, fifty-eight feet and rising three inches an hour; at Ironton, fifty-three feet and rising four inches an hour; at Portsmouth, fifty-five feet nine inches and rising four inches an hour; in point of fact, rising from Wheeling to Cairo, and so frightfully high that all towns not absolutely above high-water mark were already inundated, and suffering untold damages, amounting to millions of dollars.

Pittsburgh and Allegheny were in a deluge of water. In the two cities exist a population of about 300,000 inhabitants, against 20,000 inhabitants in 1832. Along their miles and miles of river front stand great manufactories, representing almost every imaginable enterprise, and in which millions of dollars were invested, besides railroads, with all their valuable rolling stock, and dwellings for from 25,000 to 30,000 people, all inundated—some swept entirely away—some damaged beyond repair—some requiring the additional investment of fortunes to save what was left of them, and from 20,000 to 30,000 people driven from their homes. The confusion, anxiety, distress and suffering incident to such a state of affairs in these two cities alone could not be described in a dozen volumes like this. A relief fund was at once started, and I. M. Gusky headed the first paper with \$500, suggesting that the mayors of the two cities appoint committees to take charge and manage the funds, and recommending prompt action. The cities were in darkness, owing to the flooding of the gas-works, and the military were called out, and their tramp was heard adding to the many strange and novel scenes that crowded upon each other.

Steubenville was mourning that she had one hundred houses submerged and many washed away, some caving in, and miles of railroad track wrecked, and some of them suspending business. Her water-works were under water. Her iron works were submerged, with thousands of kegs of nails rusting in the muddy element, and many other industries and products of industry in a like condition. Yet Steubenville is one of the highest located towns on the river, and it is usual with her to lose but little when many other places are in great distress. The water got two feet higher here than in 1832.

Wheeling was already counting her loss at over a million dollars, and fifty-three feet marked her water level at ten

o'clock that night, standing twenty inches on her post-office floor. Every inch of rise had caused fear and trembling, but happily it was now high enough, and went no farther; 15,000 of her citizens had been routed from their homes; 5,000 were quartered on their neighbors, in boarding houses and hotels, while 10,000 found homes as best they could in churches, school houses and public halls, and many could find no roof to shelter them. All day long those of her citizens who had homes and were comfortably situated were witnesses of the desolation of others. From point to point they went, many closing their places of business and vieing with each other as to who should see the most of this awful and majestic sight that had never before been presented to this generation of men. The water was now over four feet greater than the historical flood of 1832 at this point, as may be seen by the following table:

<i>Year. Month.</i>	<i>Ft. In.</i>
1810—November.....	48 ..
1832—February.....	48 11
1852—April.....	48 ..
1860—April.....	43 ..
1861—September.....	44 2
1862—April.....	37 ..
1865—March.....	41 ..
1873—December.....	39 8
1874—January.....	38 8
1878—December.....	34 9
1881—February.....	38 8
1881—June.....	40 9
1883—February.....	38 9
1884—February.....	53 ..

A much larger area of the city's surface was of course submerged. The island was entirely under water, and not a house not inundated. Skiffs paddled their way directly over the roofs of all one-story dwellings. The water reached to Main Street (in Wheeling), above the foot of the hill; on Market Street to the alley above the City Bank; on Fourteenth Street to a point some distance east of Market; on Twelfth Street to the *Zeitung* office, and on Sixteenth Street east of the Lutheran Church, and the water was six feet deep in the counting room of the *Intelligencer* office. Skiffs navigated East Wheeling almost at will. Center Market Square was flooded. The fair grounds on the island were a complete wreck, and the

association bankrupted. It was a sickening spectacle. There was hardly any other cry went up from the island but "For God's sake send us aid." Fortunately no lives were lost, but it was altogether owing to the almost superhuman exertions of the volunteer life-saving crew, who worked as men never worked before, and for humanity's sake alone, not accepting a red cent from any one. The following are the names, and we give them a place in our little history, that they may be more safely remembered for their heroic services: Gus. Wagner, Jake Dressel, D. C. Kuerner, Frank Woodmansee, Harry McLure, Chris Wincher, Will Kuerner, George Kuerner, Philip Knabe, Tom and Al Martin, Captain Tom Duff, Sam Norton, George Reinacher, Sam Leonhart, Mart. Douglass, Ad. Ebbert, Tom Kenny, J. M. Belleville, W. F. Butler, Jr., George Dressel, George Humphries, Hall and Will Sadler, Harry Young, Captain William Dillon, George Loos, William Lutz. H. P. McGreger, F. C. Darby, Mike Crawford, Charles Hamilton, G. Naegel, Henry Riester, Will Jungling, A. A. Franzheim, Charlie Rose, Robert B. Woods, Will Beans, Wally Lukins, John and William Armstrong, Charlie Clouston, Tom Wilson, Fred Huseman, Tappan, Will F. Klett, H. D. Dupke, George Clator, Frank McNell, Henry Merkle, Superintendent Lawson, W. C. Wilkinson. Perhaps there were others, whose names are not there. If so, we are sorry, and it is no fault of ours. We clip the following from the *Wheeling Intelligencer*, which at once brings to the mind comprehensively what the flood of February, 1884, did for Wheeling and vicinity:

"The work of destruction done by the flood exceeded any ever experienced hereabouts by war, fire or storm. The greatest calamity to property ever recorded before was a mere trifle to the damage and loss done by the raging flood. The railroads were demoralized and travel was suspended. Telegraph and telephone wires were thrown down and broken, and the poles uprooted and washed away. Fields were swept bare of the soil, fences were carried toward the gulf, outhouses and barns demolished or swept far away, and houses were overturned or floated from their sites, many of them crushed to pieces, and others stranded miles from their former locations. Household goods of all kinds were irretrievably ruined, to say nothing of the damage sustained by mills, factories and stores. All told, the loss in the immediate vicinity of Wheeling was not overestimated by the *Intelligencer* when it was placed early in the progress of the flood at \$6,000,000. Many houses fell or were torn down to prevent a disastrous fall after the flood had subsided."

From a private letter to us from Mr. R. Aleshire, Jr., from Wheeling, we make the following extracts:

"Al. Martin and brother rescued from the Island, or Garden-Spot of Wheeling, so called here, *seventy people*, working day and night gratuitously, the thanks of those rescued being sufficient to pay them, while many others were charging exorbitant rates, merely for the use of their boats. The citizens of Wheeling have raised a fund for the purpose of buying a fine watch and chain for Captain William Prince, for very valuable services in saving lives and property with his steamboat. Quite a number of the principal business men were on the go all the time, night and day, to relieve the distressed. The following deserve honorable mention: Ed. Larkin, Jacob Grubb, A. A. Franzien, I. C. Alderson, Alexander Laughlin, Alfred Paull, P. B. Dobbins and F. Reister. These and many others, whose names I do not know, would load skiffs, wagons and steamboats with provisions, which they would deliver in person. Mr. John Schellhase, mother, two sisters and brother, Mrs. Lashley, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Howell, and Mrs. Sandrock (grandmother of young Schellhase), aged eighty-five years, were driven to the roof of their house by the rising waters, and the ladies were rescued by buckling a cartridge belt around them, into which was fastened a rope, and were lowered from the roof of the building to the john-boats below."

At Martin's Ferry, with its 6,000 souls, and Bridgeport, with its 3,500, the situation was fully as bad as at Wheeling, proportionately. They were entirely cut off from Wheeling, except by means of boats. At Martin's Ferry, the fires of the Laughlin mill were put out, and also those at the Buckeye and Elson glass works. All the space between Martin's Ferry and Bridgeport, except a portion of Ætnaville, was a rushing river. The sight from the Ohio hills here is said to have been awful in its destructive grandeur. It was literally a sea of desolation. The amount of destruction entailed at Martin's Ferry is estimated at \$85,000, and at Bridgeport at \$60,000. After the subsidence of the water 1,200 people had to be cared for at the former place, and 200 families at the latter place, else they would have starved. As soon as the people living in the country back of these places heard of the distress, they responded with the most liberal contributions. Committees were at once organized, and the suffering and distressed were promptly relieved. To add to the distressing situation at Bridgeport, a fire broke out in Wells & Dent's drug store, and for a time threatened the whole town with destruction. George Giffen's grocery, in the same block, was destroyed with the drug store. The loss was \$18,000. The fire caught from the explosion of chemicals in the upper story

of the drug store, where a vast amount of goods had been stored, to be out of reach of water.

While the foregoing was the state of affairs up to 10 o'clock on the night of the 7th at Wheeling and vicinity, when the water came to a halt, what were the raging waters doing at other points? Let us take a peep at Wellsville, and the little towns and villages in that vicinity. We see a surging, seething sea of water sweeping through the streets of Wellsville, from one end to the other, and from five to ten feet deep at many points. In that portion of the town known as Toppet, the water in many places was fifteen and twenty feet deep. The strength of the current was so great as to carry many houses away by mere force, tearing them from their foundations like cockle-shells, turning them over, and either mashing them in wreck or floating them so far away as to be almost total losses. The river reached its highest point here, the highest ever before known, at midnight on the 6th. A few hours previous to that the scene in the river was one of grand and impressive ruin. There was a constant procession of floating property passing, valued at thousands upon thousands of dollars—large and valuable dwellings, well-filled stables and barns, smoke-houses, granaries, stupendous oil tanks—one large planing-mill, intact, and filled with lumber, being one of the novelties in the passing tide of wrecked wealth. That night, to add to the difficulties of the situation in rescuing property, the gas went out, by reason of the flood, and, wrapped in total darkness, the frightened and awe-stricken citizens could do nothing but listen to whirling, swirling and hissing waters, trusting to an almighty providence to at least save their lives and those near and dear to them. The loss here has been estimated at \$100,000. At Hamilton, West Virginia, opposite Wellsville, the citizens were already out of provisions, the water up to the second story in nearly every house, and the situation of the place getting well-nigh desperate, when relief boats came to their assistance. The track of the C. & P. R. R. between Rochester and Bellaire was mostly under water, and all traffic suspended. The little towns of East Liverpool, Industry and Smith's Ferry were in a terrible plight. At Industry, small dwellings were lifted up from their foundations and swept down stream, the occupants barely escaping with their lives.

At New Cumberland and McCoy's, Ohio, an awful spectacle of destruction presented itself on all sides. The rich and poor had suffered together, but not equally, as the poor

were reduced to a point where they had nothing with which to begin life anew. The savings and accumulations of years were swept away as with a breath. Over 200 families were rendered homeless in that neighborhood. The losses in these two places alone footed up more than \$50,000, and fell most heavily on the brick manufacturers. James Stone's loss, at McCoy's, was above \$15,000. With water, loss is loss—there is no insurance to come in and help men to start in business again. The men engaged in active, profitable business along the Ohio Valley before the flood who will never make an effort to build up again may be counted by hundreds.

One of the worst sufferers among the little towns below Wheeling was Cochranville, Monroe County, Ohio, where out of forty-one houses but two were left to tell the tale. Her loss is put at \$60,000 to \$75,000. At Fish Creek there seemed to be more debris for some reason or other in sight than anywhere along the river. Eye witnesses describe it as remarkable. The river would at times appear to be black with floating timbers, hay, fodder, buildings of all kinds, and live and dead stock swimming or floating.

At Moundsville, where the West Virginia Penitentiary is located, the work of the flood was to be seen, but Moundsville took care of her own. About twenty families were washed out, and the loss was about \$20,000. The large stables and St. Claude Hotel were carried about 500 yards, and lodged on the railroad track. Several small houses were also shifted from their foundations and located on the track, and had to be demolished.

At Bellaire, the situation was deplorable. Her loss is estimated at near \$300,000. At least 250 buildings were swept away or damaged beyond repair. The water reached a point four feet three inches above 1852, and three feet three inches above 1832 on Friday night, February 8th. The scene here, when the water was at its height, was grand. On the bosom of the resistless tide came the wealth of ruined homes and desolated households in seemingly endless procession. Furniture, bedding, machinery, barns, bridges, houses, hay, straw, boats, everything that would float, came crashing against the piers of the bridge, and houses and factories, carrying with them almost everything they struck. A part of the Bridgeport and Island Bridge came crashing down, and struck the piers and ironwork of the great river bridge at this point, making a noise like distant thunder, jarring and shak-

ing the immense structure, for an instant threatening its overthrow, but the next instant yielding to the tide and melting away, a shapeless mass of moving timber. The Bellaire Window Glass Works lost (estimated) \$12,000; the Union Glass Works, \$8,000; the C. & P. Railroad, \$25,000; its passenger coaches, engines and cars were nearly buried in water, and a large amount of perishable freight in the depot and cars was lost; the river tipple at the Belmont Coal Works, with several houses, was carried away; loss, \$5,000; the Crystal Glass Works lost \$5,000, the *Ætna*, over \$10,000; the Baltimore & Ohio road lost here, it is supposed, \$10,000; the Enterprise Works, \$3,000; the National Glass Works, \$5,000; the Ohio Valley Cement Works, \$2,500; the merchants about \$15,000; not counting the damage to household goods. The houses that floated off or were damaged could not be replaced for \$50,000. The *Bellaire Tribune* of February 13th, five days after the water had begun to recede, said:

"The most vivid imagination and the most brilliant pen can not fully picture the terrible effect of the flood. Now that the waters have calmly subsided within their channel and again assumed the placid flow of the "Beautiful River," we are at a loss for words to describe the effects of their mad overflow. The terrible destruction beggars description. Reflecting men who have thought of the havoc and tried to imagine the condition produced, when they look upon the results at once agree that they have no adequate conception of it. Great massive houses tossed from their foundations and left overturned, immense piles of manufactured articles and raw material a mass of ruin. The contents of houses—piano or organ, fine furniture, clothing, dishes, provisions pans and everything in the house, covered to the depth of six inches with filthy, slimy mud—this picture multiplied 500 times within the limits of Bellaire will describe the situation as to private loss. The account of losses heretofore given as sustained may be a little high as to one or two establishments, but in the aggregate is much below the real loss sustained.

"THE DAMAGE AT BELLAIRE.—It is difficult to estimate the damage done by the flood in Bellaire. All the manufacturing establishments, except the Belmont, Lantern Globe and Bottle Glass Works, Bellaire Stamping Works and Ohio Lantern Company, have suffered very heavy damages. The coal works upon the river have also suffered very heavy losses, but perhaps the losses to real estate from houses destroyed or floated off and otherwise damaged, and the terrible destruction to household goods, including pianos, organs, fine furniture, carpets, bedding, clothing, etc., will greatly exceed the losses by the factories. The aggregate loss, in the opinion of the best informed, will fall little, if any, below \$300,000."

Benwood, a town of 2,500 inhabitants, opposite Bellaire,

suffered terribly. Her manufacturing establishments, from which nearly all of her people obtained their living, were all flooded out, and many could not resume, after the waters subsided, for weeks. About forty families were rendered homeless, and after the flood three-fourths of the people were in absolute want. The good people living in the country back of Benwood, Bellaire, Bridgeport and Martin's Ferry hauled provision from as far back as points twenty miles away, and were the first to respond. Not less than 20,000 people between Wellsburg and Moundsville had to be fed and clothed. Wellsburg itself was entirely submerged, and her people endured great privations.

At Marietta a sad scene presents itself. This is the oldest and one of the prettiest and most flourishing towns on the Ohio River. On Wednesday, February 6th, at three o'clock P. M., the water had reached a height of thirty-eight and a-half feet, and was rising four inches an hour. Her business men and citizens generally were fully alive to the situation, and having been forewarned by the flood of 1883, were determined to meet it as best they could, without procrastination, and if the flood failed to reach expectations of possibilities, they would be on the side of safety. Every man that could was providing himself with a boat. Merchants were moving and storing their goods in places not reached by the flood of the previous year. But, alas! it kept coming with a slow and steady march, and far more invincible than an army with all the paraphernalia of war, and carrying with it far more destruction to the accumulation of years of enterprise and toil. Families moved to higher places only to have to move the second time, often the third time, and in some cases the fourth time, and those less fortunate and unable to move saw themselves cut off, surrounded and engulfed in the deluge. The water at three o'clock Thursday afternoon was registering over fifty feet and still advancing. The wildest scenes were taking place. People worked as they never did before all through Thursday and Thursday night. At three o'clock Friday morning one span of the Marietta and Harmar bridge was carried away by a large floating house striking against it with great force. The balance of the bridge hung until Saturday night, when it followed suit. The railroad bridge lodged on Blannerhasset's Island, the county bridge five miles below, and the draw-span six miles below. The Lowell bridge was also swept away, and lodged far below. On Friday, the 8th, the water had traveled up Putnam

Street to Fourth, and filled the houses all along the street to the depth of between four and five feet. Jenvy's grocery, which the year before had escaped, had now from eight to nine feet of water in it. There was four feet of water on the floors of her court-house and jail. The court-room upstairs was filled with families who had been driven from their homes. The Cleveland & Marietta trestle, weighted with freight cars, was in bad shape, and the cars scattered in confusion. The composing and engine rooms of the *Leader* office were both upset. The lower Front Street bridge was raised from its support. The doors of the wharf-boat were thrown open by Mr. Charles Best, and a large amount of property taken on for safety.

The steamboats became asylums for fugitives, generously and humanely opening their cabins to all, and hundreds availed themselves of the privilege, carrying on board in many cases all they possessed. All the churches except the Presbyterian and the two German churches were caught by the water. The water was fourteen feet deep in the street in front of the office of the *Marietta Times*; and still the river advanced until 9 o'clock Saturday morning, February 9th, and then it seemed to hesitate and ponder on whether it should again take up the line of march, remain, or fall back; and there it stood until Sunday, the 10th, and actually began to rise again. Monday, the 11th, however, it took up the line of retreat, and gradually withdrew its slimy folds from the city. The highest point reached was fifty-two feet nine inches, against forty-three feet two inches in 1883, and three feet one inch higher than in 1832. On Thursday evening, February 7th, it reached the great height of 1832, and, singularly, at Gallipolis it did the same thing. Let us tarry awhile at Marietta, regardless of the date at the head of this chapter, and look about us during the flood and after its subsidence, for nowhere along the river, perhaps, than at Marietta and in its vicinity are there more incidents to show the variety of destruction and the scenes that accompany a terrible flood of waters. We have already spoken of the people being quartered in the court-room of the court-house, and on the steamboats and in public halls. Some, with their families, were living and guarding their household goods on coal tows. Fifty or more families were quartered in the German Methodist Church. Every public building in the city was thrown open and occupied. There were no mails and no telegraph connection, and the most startling and exaggerated

stories from above and below were in constant circulation, adding to the alarm of the already terror-stricken people. Communication was cut off even with Parkersburg. Nearly or quite all of Front Street had their valuables on the house tops. More than two-thirds of the business houses on this street had water in the second stories, and the stocks of the stores beneath, consisting of all kinds of merchandise, such as dry goods, boots, shoes, books, stationery, and every conceivable species of wares, were on the roofs. It was a scene fit for the painter of "The Last Man." One-story buildings that had been fastened so that they could not float, were completely under water, whose depth here was fourteen feet. A *News Journal* correspondent graphically describes the situation of the streets as follows:

"It would be much easier to tell what portions of the city escaped the water than to enumerate the submerged districts, but it would scarcely be as satisfactory. All of the city below Butler Street was flooded. Front Street was navigable from end to end; Second Street to within one-third of a block from Washington Street. Third Street was in the same situation. Fourth Street was under water up to the hill on Scammel Street, and most of the houses on the west side had water on the first floor. Putnam Street was open for boats for about fifty feet above Fourth Street. The College fence had about twenty inches of water over it. * * * Passing down Front Street from Washington, one could see the harm wrought by the water on either side of the street. Strauss & Ellston's mill escaped with little damage. Below it one could see all the barns and outhouses from three blocks drifted and piled together by a whirling eddy. A little further on the handsome boat-house lay on its side. The view down the Muskingum was unobstructed by bridges. Both structures went out at three o'clock Friday. Friday morning all that was left of the county bridge, save one draw, was swept off and moved with a swift, splendid motion down to the railroad bridge. It struck with a tremendous crash, and a shower of sparks shot into the air as the iron of the two bridges and the cars on the lower one ground together and melted into the flood. Rowing on down Front Street, one saw the canal bridges hurled from their fastenings and the half dozen buildings attached to them tilted forward at a dangerous angle. Wittlig's jewelry store and McClaren's gallery were torn from their places. The front of Mason's store was torn out. Down in "Texas" the sight was appalling. Dozens of houses were entirely buried under the water. Whole families escaped with their lives. Block after block and street after street show not a single house unmoved by the water. The number of houses and other outbuildings that were overturned could not be counted from a boat. Floating barns were as numerous as leaves when they are whirled over the water by the winds of autumn."

We quote further:

"The relief committee had its headquarters in the College dormitory, and made that a depot of supplies. The distributing room was the busiest place in the town. The city was divided into districts, and two boats assigned to each district. The first day the relief boats were occupied in removing people from their homes. In many cases whole families were taken from the highest point on the roof, where they had been driven by the water. Two children were drowned in the lower part of town. One poor woman was taken from her bed sick, and gave birth to a child in the boat before land was reached. Friday the committee furnished food for 600 people. The next day the number who were unable to get food for themselves reached 1,000. The committee sent men to every house on the hill to solicit money and cooked food. The canvassers met with generous and prompt responses. People gave beyond their means in many cases. * * * The town is coated with an inch of yellow slime. A disordered mass of drift, barns, boxes, barrels, furniture and pianos strew the streets. Some will look for their homes and look in vain. Hundreds of houses will not be inhabited for months. The *Register* office was fourteen feet under the water. The paper did not get out at all last Friday. It was printed on the *Zeitung* press this week. The telegraph wires between here and Belpre are down in two places. There has been no telephone or telegraphic communication since last Wednesday. At one house the relief boat which was sent to remove the family found them all stowed in the attic. The children were taken out and the boatmen waited thirty minutes for the "young lady of the house," who finally sallied out when the water began to creep over the floor, dressed in her best, with her bangs adjusted and a heavy coat of powder and paint on her face. High water will not drown vanity. The *Leader* office was almost wholly beneath the waves. The engine room and composing room were overturned, and a quantity of paper stock and type lost. The outside was printed on Wednesday, February 6th, and the last paper was struck off just as the rising water extinguished the fire under the boiler. The paper was printed on the *Zeitung* press the following week. At the foot of Plum Street, on the east side, stood Levy's stable, which has been carried by the water to the middle of the street, where it yesterday rested in an uneasy position. Between Elm and Plum, on Third, are eighty-five hogsheads of tobacco and many tons of gas and water-pipe, hauled there from localities that were lower."

The great losses, as usual, fell upon those least able to bear them. The wealthy merchants, with their four-story buildings of brick and iron, saved almost everything, though a few of the rich lost heavily. Among them may be mentioned Hon. Thomas W. Moore, of Harmar, the Phoenix Mills, George Rice, A. Ducks & Company, A. W. Tompkins, G. Meister, Marietta Chair Company, all above \$2,500 and up to \$10,000. The stores of the small dealers, the small homes, the small shops of the mechanic, the new beginners, and those who, after a life of

toil, had saved a little home, were those who mostly found their savings swallowed up in the flood. Four hundred buildings constitute quite a little city. These many were either floated off or removed from their foundations. The wet wheat in the elevator at the Phoenix Mills swelled until it broke the large iron bolts that confined it as though they were but pieces of cotton twine. The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad bridge, with five cars of valuable merchandise, was lodged on Blannerhassett's Island. The company will rebuild immediately. The losses, big and little, direct and indirect, will not fall short of half a million dollars. In the midst of all this distress and destruction, Marietta had some big-hearted people, however, that were willing to part with yet more to make comfortable those that were homeless and destitute. Gen. A. J. Warner threw open the doors of his residence to the multitude. Douglas Putnam did likewise, entertaining and feeding all that could get in, estimated from 125 to 200 persons, and giving to the relief fund largely besides. Capt. Davis took on board of his steamer 150 persons. David Putnam, at Harmar, received and cared for eighty under his roof. A new resident of the place, Mr. H. P. Whitney, laid down fifty dollars on the altar, and 500 bushels of coal, for the needy. In the start, something like 3,000 people had to be fed, and it cost some money to give them three square meals a day; but it was done, until, day by day, the number dwindled to a few hundred. In the midst of this great calamity, as at other places, there were those who took advantage of the excitement and confusion to impose on the committees and donors, and those who had not contributed a cent to anybody were the ones who raised the greatest complaint over it, and so it will ever be; but the warm-hearted charity that finds an abiding place in the great American heart can never be stifled in time of great calamity or need by the cry of the croaking craven, that somebody got a loaf of bread or a pound of meat that could have gotten along without it.

But let us take a view of Harmar, just across the Muskingum. The water reached its highest point here Saturday morning early, February 9th, five days, be it remembered, before it reached its highest point at Cincinnati. The depth, or height, reached was about the same as at Marietta. Almost the entire population of Harmar was driven out, and Harmar Hill was crowded with people, camping out in tents or in the open air, wagons, box-cars and shanties of every

conceivable architecture serving to shelter them from a cold, driving rain. The mayor of Harmar was with the rest, camped in a board shanty, out on the hill. Some had all their earthly possessions on flat-boats. But six out of all the houses in the place were out of water, and communication from one point to another was very difficult. Owing to the swiftness of the current, it was only by the exercise of the greatest labor that a skiff could be rowed through the streets. Only thirty houses were not flooded in the second story. All the business houses had water on their second floors, and the merchants lost much more than those of Marietta. Fifty buildings floated away, and a great many were lifted from their foundations. This was a horrid state of affairs for a happy, prosperous little city, as Harmar was known far and near to be; and no one, surrounded with the comforts of home, can realize it unless he had been subjected to the same bitter experiences. Harmer has only a population of 2,000, but when you find nine-tenths of that 2,000 out of their homes, and quartered here and there, on friends, back on the hills, in the country, in tents, in shanties made of fence-rails and brush, with but an old quilt or blanket to cover them from a pitiless rain of twenty-four hours' intermittent duration, then Harmar that was looks indeed desolate and distressed.

There are persons who cannot believe but that these things are exaggerated, and that the situation was not quite so bad; but facts are facts, and there is not a tongue or pen that can begin to tell what the people of this Valley endured in that great flood. When the flood was at its highest, a relief-boat was sent up the river from Gallipolis to take provisions and clothing to the washed-out all along, as far up as Pomeroy. [We are going to speak more particularly of this by and by. We only want now to give an illustration of what some folks call "exaggeration."] A relief committee was on the boat, composed of the first citizens of Gallipolis, and gentlemen who went to see for themselves, and get the solid facts. On their return they invited newspaper correspondents and others to meet with them and hear their report. One of the most reputable, as well as one of the most prominent, citizens of the place, Mr. C. Fred. Henking, arose and said, almost in the following language: "Gentlemen, I can't undertake to describe the situation. I thought I had read full descriptions of these flooded towns and this desolating river, but I had no conception of the situation until my visit to Pomeroy, this afternoon. Almost everywhere above Gallipolis the river reaches

from hill to hill. In many places the people are camped upon the hills. We saw them on the hills back of Pomeroy, and at several other places, and suppose that between here and there, there are not less, right now, than 5,000 people out in this terrible rain. [It had been pouring down incessantly for twenty-four hours.] We must do something, and do it quickly, for these people. Provisions are now short in Pomeroy, and those that are now dividing will soon be out, and probably by the last of this week there will be 10,000 people actually enduring a famine if not assisted." The newspaper correspondents took it up, and the people took it up, and it was wired and heralded to the whole State that night, and there were actually provisions, clothing and blankets at Gallipolis within twenty-four hours, from the interior of the State, and on to Pomeroy and between, that night, and they kept coming like an avalanche, and there was hardly any danger of too much coming. All at once some one at Pomeroy, who was so stupid and stolid, in all probability, as never to have left his own snug quarters, began to get jealous of the help the people were getting, and began writing letters and telegraphing to the newspapers that accounts were greatly exaggerated by Pomeroy's friends, down below; that she didn't need anything more, etc., etc. Here was the "one" among 10,000, and altogether lovely, that was afraid of "exaggeration."

We say to the reader that he can *never*, from any source, get the details of the flood of 1884 in the Ohio Valley. It is like describing a ten days' battle from beginning to end by one man. To stand here at Harmar, Marietta, Parkersburg, Williamstown and Belpre, all adjacent towns, and look towards Pittsburgh and Allegheny, taking in Lower Newport, Upper Newport, St. Mary's, Grape Island, Bayardsville, Wade Postoffice, Long Reach, Murraysville, Sistersville, Centre View, Witten's, Sardis, New Martinsburg, Raven's Rock, Proctor, Pine Run, Clarington, Woodland, Powhatan, Blairsville, Businessburg, Cochran'sville, Grand View, Weegee, Bellaire, Benwood, Wheeling, Bridgeport, Martin's Ferry, Corkville, Portland Station, Warrington, Rush Run, Wellsburgh, Brilliant, Mingo Junction, Steubenville, Brown's, Jeddo, Torrento, Calumet, Elliottsville, McCoy's Station, Port Homer, Linton, Yellow Creek, Wellsville, East Liverpool, Smith's Ferry, Industry, Baker, Freedom, and countless other small villages and railroad stations clear on to Pittsburgh, and consider that at every one of these points there was a week's battle with this great flood of wa-

ters, not only for property, but oftentimes for life itself, and talk of exaggeration of this great calamity in the Ohio Valley is preposterous. Without turning our eyes toward the gulf from here, there is material of disaster, accident and loss sufficient for volumes of naked facts without the slightest embellishment. An eye witness, who had before been a doubting Thomas, and would not believe except he saw the print of the nails, and put his finger into the print of the nails, and thrust his finger into the side, boarded a relief boat at Pittsburgh, and came down the river, and this is what he says:

"The valley between Steubenville and Wheeling is indeed a magnificent one, but to-day it presents a melancholy spectacle. The fertile fields are the bottom of the river. The water has gone out into the woods, carrying with it and lodging there a miscellaneous assortment of debris. In the branches of the trees straw, rubbish and wreck of every description is hanging. In many places the telegraph poles were lying flat. All the fences adjacent to the river have disappeared. Logs, lumber, coal-flats and barges have drifted out into the corn-fields and meadows.

"Probably the most distressing picture was at Warren, Jefferson County, Ohio. This little town of probably 300 inhabitants is a total wreck. Thirteen of the few houses there before the flood have entirely disappeared. Others are twisted off their foundations. There is not one in the village with a window in it. The only brick house in the place is an absolute wreck. Rubbish of every description has been washed to the front doors of the dwellings. Everything indicated misery and distress.

"Just below where the town once stood, a coffin and a wheelbarrow were clinging to the topmost branches of an ordinary-sized tree. There were no visible signs of death in the immediate vicinity, but a few hundred yards further down the river a desolate-looking graveyard had been made the receptacle for trees, railroad ties and telegraph poles. It is not known whether the coffin was swept from that desolate spot, or whether the people in that section had adopted the old Indian custom of burying the dead in tree tops."

Not only did this wide, sweeping body of water attack the towns and the railways and the bridges; but oftentimes you will see that from hill to hill, a distance—varying according to the width of the bottoms—of from one to four and five miles, everything swept bare of fences, corn, fodder, hay, straw, outbuildings, barns and stables, besides carriages, wagons, agricultural machinery, and everything that water could bear upon its bosom. Here and there, owing to some peculiar bend or turn in the torrent, the debris of buildings, barges, coal tipples, freight cars, bridges, stores, shops and rafts of logs, lumber, staves, shingles, hoop-poles, gunwales,

skiffs, john-boats, barrels, tierces, kegs, straw-ricks, hay-stacks, and things too numerous to mention, would be found spread over some man's fine bottom farm, and although representing an independent fortune in themselves, utterly worthless, buried in mud, and piled and tangled and twisted among each other to such an extent that to get them out and haul them to where they could be shipped would require an army of men and teams for weeks, and entirely consume what little value they now possessed. So it is loss—dead loss—that will require a long season of prosperity to replace. The \$500,000 of Congressional appropriation, and the \$200,000 of Ohio State appropriation, and the \$100,000 of Kentucky State appropriation, and the appropriations of all the towns and cities, and all the generous donations of the people of all the States in food, clothing, bedding, tenting, etc., will not pay the losses for 100 miles below Pittsburgh in this long one-thousand-mile stretch of devastation and ruin. If the roll could be called of all those living between Parkersburg and Pittsburgh who, on the first day of February, 1884, were worth from \$500 to \$2,500, and who, in the short space of seven days, had been made penniless by this flood, it would be a terrible disaster alone. Across the river from Marietta and Harmar lies the little town of Williamstown, which was flooded to the depth of about eight feet. Both towns were literally gutted by the swift currents. Several houses were carried away. The citizens moved to the flat back of the town and were well cared for, but many lost their household goods. When the relief boat first visited them, only one man came to meet them. Powhattan, a village of 500 people, thirty miles below Moundsville, was one of the great sufferers, not a single inhabitant escaping loss and inconvenience. They were overjoyed when the relief boat met them, and were full to overflowing with gratefulness. Nowhere along the river, perhaps, were they in greater need. Bayardsville, eight miles below Powhattan, was washed out, and most of the people were compelled to resort to temporary sheds for protection from the weather. In all of these small towns and villages, especially those cut off from railroad connection, the distress was much greater and the losses fell more severely than in the larger and more prosperous places, where the well-to-do element, uniting with those who escaped the visitation of the water, took care and gave assistance to those who suffered.

New Martinsville, a place of 300 families, was a great sufferer. Not a family escaped loss, and about 100 families

were made desolate. The river not only swept the town several feet deep, but stretched back toward the interior as far as the eye could reach. Cut off, and like an island surrounded with water, their situation can better be imagined than described. The loss here is estimated at \$125,000. Sistersville was in, if anything, a worse condition. It presented the appearance of a huge drift pile, and indeed thousands of dollars' worth of property gathered here, though when moved from where it belonged and served a purpose, was of little value. Matamoras, like Gallipolis, was "high and dry," and performed the same mission of feeding and transporting food to her suffering neighbors.

But let us now look down the river ten or twelve miles to Parkersburg and Belpre:

Parkersburg is on the West Virginia shore, a city of about 10,000 inhabitants. The Little Kanawha empties into the Ohio here. Belpre is an Ohio town, just opposite. At Parkersburg the river reached a height of fifty-four feet. One hundred thousand dollars will cover her losses, though they were estimated before the fall of the water at not less than three-quarters of a million. The water reached Paxton's store, just above the market house, on Market Street. It was all around the M. E. Church, parsonage, and custom house. All the small houses on the low grounds are upset or gone. Governor Jackson's stable, at the Jackson homestead, was lodged against the Star foundry, and the water was two feet deep on the floor of the homestead. The water was all along the Cook road up to the pottery. All the stores on Court and Market Streets were invaded. The walls of several buildings fell out. The Ohio Pulp Mill lost everything that would float. Those that lost in the hundreds, ranging from \$100 to \$1,000, were as follows: F. Jenkins & Son, Shattuck & Johnson, C. A. Moss, Vaughn & McKinney, S. E. Kuykendall, M. S. Thanhouser, J. W. Mather, J. H. Leed, Caroline Bohler, Mullen Bros., L. P. Neale, F. Nelly, Mrs. L. J. Heinsfurter, Mrs. Annie Maloney, Cunningham & Sutton, R. B. Taylor, W. L. Logan & Co., Logan Carriage Co., Smith's China Palace, Ralph Covert, Mitchell, Stevenson & Dunbar, Chas. Rauch, H. Weinberg, I. W. Dils & Sons, W. J. Hill, T. R. Leonard, E. A. Ingersoll, T. B. Clark, T. Nelly, I. H. Anderson, M. Egan, Matt. Ward, W. H. Neale, Jno. Gibson, Jr., Jno. Powell, I. A. Moosman, F. M. Morningner, J. Figdor, I. Wetheral & Son, I. M. Heinsfurter, Eagle Mills, J. Wagner, G. E. Smith, E. Brai-

don, Isaac Prager, W. H. Brown, A. Hunter Smith, W. H. Smith, Jr., & Co., Second National Bank, Als' Central Hotel, C. & H. Witman, C. C. Martin, L. Nathan, W. S. Caswell, Wood County Jail, Gibben's Bindery, Jacob Selig, F. Stahlman, T. I. Boreman, J. L. Gilbert & Co., A. B. Smith, Stevenson & Wade, D. S. Plumb, John Busch, J. Good, Tom Rowland, L. B. Kirby, Thos. Dolan, W. N. Chancellor, Chas. Porter, W. H. Bush, W. H. Hunter, Those that lost \$1,000 and under \$2,000 are as follows: T. E. Saunders & Son, R. G. Caldwell, Keller Bros., L. L. Hall, James Hunter, Swann House, A. R. Kennedy, The Sweetser Oil Co., Chas. Gambrill. Other losses were as follows: Jack Harne, \$4,000; Frank Rex, \$5,000; Dudley Bros. (Neall Island, etc.), \$3,000; Gibbens estate, \$2,000; G. R. Shaw & Co.'s tannery, \$5,000; Jeff. Tracewell, unestimated; Novelty Mill, \$10,000; Parkersburg Mill Co., \$15,000; the Commercial Oil Co., unestimated. The losses below \$100 are very numerous. The Ohio River Railroad had about all its trestling washed out, and there were some bad land-slides; but every bridge was found to be all right when the water went down, and having secured a great deal of the rolling stock lost, their losses dwindled down to half what they expected. \$75,000 or \$100,000 will make them solid as ever. She came out of the flood in very good shape.

Belpre did not fare so well. At the maximum of the waters she presented a fearful picture of ruin and desolation—a whole section of the town carried away, her people massed in the churches—the stores, flouring mills, pump factory, and about fifty dwellings washed away—she had anything but a smiling, prosperous face. One hundred thousand dollars will cover losses, but it makes a far greater showing in Belpre than \$100,000 in Parkersburg, and \$100,000 is not a small amount of money. Think of it! It would accomplish what 100,000 laborers could perform in one day at \$1 each. The scenes that ensued in Belpre were much the same as seen all along for about 200 miles as the flood progressed. Some fine buildings would burst and come down with a crash; some were weaving like a drunken man; some snapping the cables that held them, like so many threads; merchants moving, and piling their stocks again a little higher, as the waters encroached; the gravel approaches to the railroad slipping and sliding out; the bank caving off here and there; some of the citizens trying to organize relief committees, with nothing to distribute. The water reached its highest point on the morn-

ing of the 9th, at six o'clock, three feet two inches above 1832. It only left about fifteen acres of Belpre and Blannerhasset, an addition to Belpre, out of water. The following is an estimate of her losses to business men :

H. Gettle, feed and groceries, \$500 ; Mrs. Robb, saloon, \$1,000 to \$1,100 ; Bosworth & Oneal, \$500 to \$700 ; Thomas Harkins, coal dealer, grist-mill, and John Gilchrist, tailor, \$80 in cash and \$100 in stock ; blacksmith shop, \$2,000 ; T. H. Coksey, \$100 ; Caswell & Oneal, \$8,000 to \$10,000 ; N. B. Adams, drugs, \$3,000 ; J. M. Stone, groceries and queensware, \$500 to \$800 ; C. A. Brown & Son, groceries and books, \$1,000 ; J. Alderman, dry goods, \$3,000 to \$3,500 ; William Hill, shoe-shop, \$150 ; Downer Bros., shoe-shop, \$125 ; Hawk Bros., meat market, \$490 ; Carmi Smith, hotel and livery-stable, over \$5,000 ; Guthrie Bros., drugs, \$2,000 ; O. L. Davis, hardware, \$600 to \$800 ; A. S. Combs, drugs, \$850 ; S. M. Taylor, barber, \$150 ; L. E. Stone, flouring and planing mill, \$13,000 ; Buckeye Pump-Works, \$4,000 to \$5,000 ; Jas. Corder, woolen-mills, \$500 ; H. Jones, blacksmith, \$250. No estimate has yet been put on losses of buildings and household goods.

The pump works of A. W. Glazier floated off full of pumps. Many were gathered up along down the river below Gallipolis, where they were found piled up on the banks. Belpre was kindly cared for, and her sad situation soon relieved, but the trials she passed through will not soon be forgotten.

What we have related has carried us only up to the 9th of February. Let us go back one day now, to

FEBRUARY 8.

and see what is going on along the tributaries of this "Beautiful River," to which our sweetest bards and most eloquent historians have paid homage when it was in a milder and more gentle mood, carrying upon its amiable bosom the products of peace, thrift, and enterprising industry.

Beginning at Pittsburgh we will enumerate its principle tributaries on both sides, and we can have a better idea of where those mighty volumes of water came from, in the first place being careful to remember that the great falls of snow in January covered the great Central States from the tops of the Alleghenies to the Mississippi ; that the snow was in the last days of January and the first of February, supplemented with thawing weather and incessant rains, letting loose the great reservoirs of all the rivers of Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia, making the Monongahela, Youghiogheny and Allegheny a sweeping flood at the same moment that every tributary for a thousand miles of the Ohio River was

in the same condition. On the north were the Beaver, Sunfish, Tuscarawas, Little Muskingum, Muskingum, Little and Big Hockhocking, Scioto, Little Miami, Miami, and Wabash. On the South were the Little Kanawha, Kanawha, Big Sandy, Licking, Kentucky, Cumberland, and Tennessee, besides numerous large streams not dignified with the names of rivers, and yet great feeders of the Ohio, all full or overflowing from the same causes as were the head-waters, and all flowing into the Ohio between Pittsburgh and Cairo. In consequence, all the river bottoms and towns in the interior of Ohio, and some in Indiana, were undergoing the same trials as were being experienced by the farmers and towns people along the Ohio. Huntington, West Virginia; Evansville, Indiana; Bellefontaine, Urbana, Mt. Vernon, Youngstown, Delaware, Zanesville, New Comerstown, Coshocton, Franklinton (a suburb of Columbus), Dayton, Nelsonville, Logan, Greenfield, Batavia, Plainville, Loveland, Miami-ville, Milford, Monroe, Middletown, Canal Dover, Navarre, Bremen, Van Wert, and many other places, were all partially or totally submerged, rising with dripping garments, or about to plunge into the icy waves. Pike, railroads and bridges were overflowed, bottom lands swept bare, and fences, hay, corn, fodder, straw, and small buildings carried off in much the same way as on the Ohio, where the water rolled not as a river, but as an ocean, sometimes five and six miles wide, and backing into outlets off the river in a few cases as far as twenty miles, overflowing the banks of creeks, and doing incalculable damage. In the Kanawha River the water backed to within about ten miles of Charleston, a distance of fifty miles. These people in the interior were also seeing some of the horrors attendant upon the flood of the Ohio, in being driven from their homes and crowding into narrow quarters, oftentimes as many as twenty-five persons in a room, though they were happy in not having to endure such miseries for so long a period of time. There were instances along the Ohio where people were huddled together in this way for ten long days and nights, with no egress or ingress to their narrow quarters save with a skiff or boat, the sick, hungry, aged and infirm—mothers with infants at their breasts—confinements, deaths, toddling little ones, that were in constant danger of accident, requiring unceasing attention, and countless miseries that even half that were flooded could not realize; so many different degrees of misery are there that many became happy and jubilant even by comparison; even those not

ill knew nothing of the horrors of the flood compared with those that were racked with pain, and unable to get medical attendance or remedies for their troubles. The horrors of those that went through those anxious nights of storm and flood could hardly be exceeded by any circumstances that might arise in this life. There are many small towns and villages along the river that were so covered with debris after the flood, and so many houses swept away, that lot-owners could not tell where their own lots were. Take the little town of Cochranville, before alluded to: It is, or was (for it *is* no more), located on a beautiful site. It was the market town and shipping point for a large section of adjacent country. It contained forty-two houses; forty are gone; the one dwelling that was left at last accounts had four families in it, and the little frame church that had been spared had three families in it, each family with a bed on the floor. The water had been up to the ceiling of the church, and what kept it from floating off is a mystery. The straw still hangs from the chandeliers. Some of the mottoes used at their last Christmas festival still adorn the walls. "Welcome," and "In God we trust," still hang behind the pulpit. All the families save those mentioned above have gone entirely away and may never return. The town is a drift pile of logs, brush and refuse.

Let us now, on Saturday,

FEBRUARY 9,

turn our face down the river. Blannerhassett's Island was overflowed, but caught a great many of the wrecks, and they are still to be seen clinging to it. Little Hocking was favored by the flood, and was not injured much. The county bridge was carried away, and that is her greatest loss.

Hockingport did not fare so well. Thirteen of her houses had been carried off, and as many more moved or loosened from their foundations. The people report that Messrs. Knowles, Kesper, Dalton, and Ira Huntington, of this place, are entitled to the everlasting gratitude of the people for what they did for the destitute before relief arrived from other points. George Sims, H. Bumgardner, and John Dickinson are probably the heaviest losers. Mr. Sims lost his store-house and warehouse; Mr. Bumgardner, his saw mill, and 100,000 feet of lumber, and Mr. Dickinson, his cooper shop, tools, timber, and material used in his business. The flood threw many out of work here, and there was consid-

erable destitution until relieved. The large bridge over Lee Creek, in Wood county, West Virginia, will have to be rebuilt, having been washed off, and stove to pieces.

At Harris Ferry, four miles above Belleville, says correspondence of *State Journal* (Parkersburg), lived Old Man White and wife, in the same house they occupied in 1832, at the time of that flood, and the old '32 flood marks were yet visible on the side of their house. They lost their little all this time, and were made quite destitute.

The town of Belleville, W. Va., was a great sufferer. A large number of her citizens were obliged to go to the country for shelter and food. Capt. Cooper, of the steamer Sonoma, rendered great assistance to the unfortunates, inviting them to come on board his boat, and giving them all the supplies possible. Thirty-three buildings were washed away, and twenty-five more were moved from their foundations. The water was seven feet six inches higher than in 1883, and between three and four feet higher than in 1832. The water was into the second story of every house but three, and presented a picture of desolation, if not despair. Trees, logs and wrecks of houses were scattered about in great confusion. W. A. Cooper, Hod. Mitchell and Anthony Williamson & Son were among the heavy losers. The latter firm lost their store-house and entire stock of goods. At Long Bottom the people sheltered themselves in the churches and school-houses. The water here rose eight feet six inches higher than in 1883, and was about ten feet all over the town. The total loss here is from \$15,000 to \$20,000. At Murrayville, a place noted for thrift and industry, there was but little to see but desolation on every hand. As, in most of the towns, the churches and school-houses were on the most elevated ground, and served a good purpose in giving shelter to the people in this hour of great extremity. When the water went down here, the people found many of their household goods buried in the sand and mud of the streets. The water reached a height here of nine feet above '83, and two and a-half feet above '32, and would average nine feet on all the houses.

We forgot to mention that the village of Reedsville, just below Belleville, stood high and dry above the waters, and was one of the few places able to render assistance to her neighbors, which she did in a royal manner.

We now come to and enter what is known as the

GREAT POMEROY BEND.

To show the extent of this bend we will state that it is twenty-seven miles from Letart, Ohio, to Point Pleasant by the way of the river, and only sixteen miles between these points across the country. It is a continuous stretch of bend for about thirty miles, counting from Murrayville, or Long Bottom, to Pomeroy, though usually reckoned for half that distance, or less, counting from Racine down.

Over twenty towns are in the bend, embracing a population of more than 50,000 people. The bottoms are generally wide and fertile, averaging on the north side one and a half miles in width. It is a great coal and salt region. The water took away the tipples of all the mines. Six of the largest mines were flooded. In this bend there is probably more heavy labor done than anywhere along the river for the same extent in miles, and the interruption of business at this season of the year was particularly severe on the laboring classes. From Murrayville down are the following villages and towns: Muse's Bottom, Portland, Ravenswood, Great Bend, Pleasant View, Saxon, Willow Grove, Ripley Landing, Apple Grove, Letart, Letart Falls, Plants, Antiquity, Racine, New Haven, Syracuse, Hartford City, Minersville, and Mason City (opposite Pomeroy), and Pomeroy itself.

Portland is a little town in the extreme upper end of Meigs County, with a population of nearly 200 people. We take the following correspondence relative to Portland from the *Meigs County Telegraph*:

"The wild waters drove every family in town from their homes except those of G. W. Clark, Captain N. W. Wheeler, and Rev. Bell. The water was sixteen inches deep on the grinding floor of the mill, and one side of the boiler wall fell down. The mill company sustain damages to the amount of \$200 at least. L. Bramble's store-house floated off with about \$300 worth of goods; the building lodged three miles below, on James McKay's farm, and a part of the goods have since been abstracted. Bramble's dwelling house and warehouse were afloat and moved from their foundations. He also lost 20,000 staves and heading. Mr. Bramble thinks his loss will approximate \$1,000. R. Allen & Son's store was afloat, and was only saved from floating off by tying. The goods were transferred to a barge, where they held forth in true "floating palace" style during the high water. A. E. Allen's dwelling was moved from the foundation by the waves of the Stockdale. Damage to store and dwelling \$200 to \$300. John Bell's skiff shop floated off and lodged on the head of Buffington's Island; loss \$150. George Thompson's skiff shop was moved from the foundation, and some of his lumber floated off; loss \$100. A small building belonging to H. Price, and occupied by Doc Blain, floated off. Matt.

Bennett's dwelling floated fifty yards and lodged in Mrs. Gale's lot; will cost \$50 to get it back again. George Taylor's dwelling was afloat, and is badly racked. His kitchen and the contents floated off; loss \$200. Jesse Gandee's dwelling floated off the foundation; damaged \$100. Bill Smith's shoe shop, also used for Post-office, was afloat; his kitchen was also detached from the house; loss \$200. One end of R. M. Taggart's house rose in the water, but settled back. Uncle Billy Barringer's house floated off the foundation. Mrs. Carrie Powell's house floated off the foundation. Mrs. Browning's kitchen was turned over. Mrs. Carter's house floated 100 yards and lodged on George Taylor's lot. The Pat Carder house floated and lodged on Taylor's lot. Scarcely any of the buildings which where afloat could have been saved but for the timely aid rendered by the towboat Onward in the use of her lines, by which the houses were made secure. The town is literally jammed full of drift of every description, and much time will be required to clean up the rubbish before some of the buildings can be replaced. At DeWitt's Run several buildings floated off their foundations. M. L. Fitch's dwelling was almost covered with water, but was weighted down so that it did not move. He had several hundred bushels of corn under water. The school house, a mile up the creek, floated across the stream. We have one that beats Major F. C. Russell's pig story: Thomas Coleman, on Muse's Bottom, took thirty hogs up stairs in one end of his residence, and he occupied the other end. On Buffington Island 3,000 bushels of corn were under water."

Ravenswood was another one of those fortunate towns that only got a taste and flavor of the "Great Flood of '84." The water reached its highest point here on Sunday, February 10th, when it stood seven feet above '83. In the houses right along the river the water got eight feet deep, but back, the town was not overflowed—probably only one square of the place was in water. She was but very little damaged, and stood viewing the flood with serenity of mind incident to a knowledge of perfect safety. Yet she was alive to the wants of the distressed around her, and did all she could in relieving them.

At Letart, the damage was light comparatively, only the lower part of the town being submerged. At Antiquity, the losses were heavy. Racine, for a small town, suffered immensely. Her losses exceed \$25,000. The following is a list of the persons who lost property in Racine, ranging from a few dollars to over \$1,000:

B. E. Sibley, Rev. E. Sibley, Jacob Schaffer, J. B. Kay, B. Kay & Son, R. H. Harpold, Matilda Harpold, W. H. Williams, Peter Petrel, Racine Brass Band, J. C. Hayman, Condery & Haning, Rev. Stanley Stivers, Horace Congs, W. A. Ellis & Co., W. A. Ellis, L. A. Weaver, William Applegate, T. W. Mercer, T. Smart, Reed Richards & Co., Martin Wolf, Michael Beacer, Abner

Curtis, Lewis Curtis, Alberta Curtis, Sylvester Curtis, William Donaldson, S. S. Sarbre, Leander Bell, L. S. Cross, Harvey J. Wolf, E. Aumiller, John Wolf, Mrs. Berges, Lydia Sayre, J. R. Philson, W. G. Sibley, Andrew Lone, Dr. Gregory, Mrs. Chany Bousls, W. B. Clark, J. J. M. Suit, J. L. W. Bell, George Ogden, A. J. Smart, Frank Filson, J. R. Ellis, Angie Boyd, Cassie Wolf, J. Perry Wolf, H. M. Danley & Co., Ben Congrove, Mrs. Jane Brierly, Emma Jenkins, Capt. Geo. Aumiller, Mrs. C. Merrell, R. E. Rhodes, H. E. Amsden, Mrs. Watkins, Chas. Jay, Chas. Bell, David Cowdrey, Mrs. E. B. Amsden, Z. Rhodes, John Wilson, Adeline Ellis, Frank Weaver, Josh Harpold, D. M. Wolf, Mary Coe, Capt. George Smith, John Buffington, E. B. Deweese, Allen & Clark, T. Mallory, John P. Wolf, Jr., J. M. Ellis, J. F. Neglor, B. B. Mallory, John Weldon, A. M. Carson, Rev. J. C. Arbuckle, C. G. Beach, A. M. Bell, E. S. Mays, Ed. Egan, John Beagle, R. E. Ellis, J. D. Jones, Elias Smith, John Banks, G. W. Wolf, William Lane, Dr. E. C. Fisher, Mallory & McElroy, Capt. Dor. De Wolf, W. B. Skirvin, A. W. Paden, William Dum, Mrs. R. McElroy, S. D. Pickens, E. Reed, Mrs. A. Cooper, G. N. West, W. S. Wolf, D. Garen, H. H. Blackmore, John Smith, S. R. Wolf, Waid Cross, Cross estate, Noah Weaver, J. G. Wolf.

Racine, after the flood, looked worse than almost any other place. It seemed to have gone more to pieces. The water at its highest stage covered two of the Methodist church steps. The old Lallance House, Eph. Aumiller's dwelling, and numbers of the residences on the hill that have been considered above high water mark for a generation, were flooded. It lacked only one inch of entering the residence of Mrs. Doctor Philson. The entire lower end of town was completely drowned out. W. A. Ellis & Co's store was the only one in which the water did not reach the second story. Five baby boys were born in the town during the flood, belonging respectively to Riley Wolf, Frank Filson, Finley Banks, Cullen Gilkey, and J. C. Hayman. "Little Gath," correspondent of the *Telegraph*, and from whose article the above facts are gleaned, said it would cost \$500 to get the streets in shape, they were piled so full of drift and rubbish.

"C. A. R.," writing to the *Telegraph* from Long Bottom, says: "Taking the dwelling houses of this village that were situated low enough for the water to reach, fourteen out the twenty-eight went down the river; one stopped a half a mile below and broke in two. The damage amounts to one-third the value of the village before the flood. The flood of 1884, on the 9th of February, by a careful measurement, was eight feet and one inch higher than the flood of 1852. The flood of 1883 was seven inches below 1852."

The flood used Minersville very badly. Her coal banks were flooded last year, and again this year.

The following is from an esteemed lady resident of Minersville:

On Tuesday, February 5th, we began to realize that the river was rapidly rising. On the 6th its upward course marked four inches an hour. That evening four stout horses hauled Mr. E. Williams' caulking float up the road to remove the household goods of those dwellings threatened by the flood. Right here we may say this same float did service last year during the flood. Mr. Williams' boat and skiffs have always been at the disposal of the people free of charge during high water. Thursday and Friday, the 7th and 8th, three inches an hour was the reply to the anxious inquiry of how rapidly the river was rising. And even the man who reasoned because the river never had reached a certain point, it never would, was ready to admit his logic bad. Saturday, the 9th, two inches and a half an hour; and Sunday one-half an inch, and one-quarter, and finally "a stand." When on a stand, the Ohio River reached from hill to hill. "On the stand" was hailed with joy, and hope once more dawned on a flood-stricken people. But who shall picture those dark days when the great heart of nature seemed touched, and she poured a flood of tears, or brooded in the sullen silence of a dense fog. The sun refused to shine. Those nights full of terror and darkness, whose stillness was broken by the roar of the water as it flowed over the slate tip; the pitiful lowing of cows, squealing of swine, and crowing of roosters imprisoned by the flood in Virginia; the blowing of conch shells, and cries for help from the other shore, made a night that few would care to repeat, and never could forget. "The river on the stand," but what destruction had been wrought! Of one hundred houses in the school district, averaging six to a household, but thirteen houses that the flood had not, to some extent desolated. Where did the people go? Those that could, moved up-stairs; where this was impracticable, they sought refuge on higher ground, and packed like sardines in a box in those houses not inundated. Many household goods might be seen on the hill-side in the drenching rain, while others fared worse by being completely submerged in the houses. Then to add to misfortune, Mr. E. Williams' coal banks flooded, and their means of livelihood was cut off. For a time it seemed as though starvation and ruin stared our people in the face. But private aid began pouring in, first from the grand distributing point of Gallipolis; the boats over which floated the stars and stripes, whose side bore the inscription of "U. S. Relief," came, and with them such store of good provisions, blankets, comforts, and clothing for a needy people, that it made one feel like thanking God he lived in such a country, where none, no matter what calamity might overtake them, were allowed to suffer. The supplies came in plenty, and were distributed generously by the relief committee. They continue to issue rations, and will so continue until the works are started. To return to the flooding of the mines: Mr. E. William's dam stood like adamant, and up till Saturday P. M. all hoped the mines would be saved; but then it was discovered the water was coming in from the old works. The men filled up

the closets along the foot of the hill, and an opening where coal had been gotten out years ago was thoroughly protected. But still the water came in. Then that night men went in the bank, and hastily constructed a dam in one of the old entries, in the vain hope they might save the mine. They then discovered the water was coming through the old works, the Yost bank; the breaking through caused by the flooding of Horton's bank, which had occurred several days previously—his mine flooding both this year and last, from being insecurely dammed. The dam built Saturday night to stay the waters held till Sabbath, when it had flowed through the old mine, and the great body of water had risen nearly to the top of the dam, when it broke with fearful force, producing a report like a cannon, and a large body of water came rushing into the mines. The few who were laboring near the entrance to the salt furnace lost no time in escaping, for none knew the extent of the danger. But there were the two engineers, back over a mile at the engines, under ground—they must be saved! Few care to enter a mine under such circumstances. So John E. Williams started in alone, to warn the men of their danger, but could not proceed far, as the water from the old entries had forced the bad air out, and the lights would not burn; so he retraced his steps, and started over the hill to enter the slope. Billy Bath was the only man who volunteered to go with him; soon Charlie Hood came up, and learned the situation (his brother was one of the engineers); he and Bath lost no time in making their way there. Mr. Williams being very fleshy, and short of breath, could not keep up with them. They made fast time down the slope, and found that the engineers, Wall Hood and John Redpath, had become aware of the danger, and sought places of safety. They were soon rescued, and the joyful news spread that the engineers were safe. We heard one of the mine owners rejoicing, and saying, "As the boys were all right, the bank might go." Sunday there was but one miner who would enter the bank, and go anywhere, and brave any danger. That man was David E. Evans, a man who has few equals, and no peer in coolness and bravery. It is the opinion of the owners that had not the temporary dam been constructed, so as to let such a vast volume of water come in at once when it broke, that some men could have been found to work in the bank, and their pumps and machinery might have been saved. But after-sight is always the best. As it was, when the waters ceased coming in so rapidly, and seemed nearly on a stand, the next week, the men saved a great many wagons, tools, brick, &c., and the new boiler, that had never been placed, was brought out. Mr. Williams has purchased a large Blake pump, now that is out at the shaft, and will be placed in position as soon as possible, and doubtless will speak for itself as to what it can accomplish. Mr. Jubles, as yet, has not had an opportunity to make an accurate estimate of his losses at the White Rock Salt Furnace, but calculates it will be at least \$5,000. They labored to save his property, but with all their efforts 2,000 barrels of salt were lost, a number of grainers destroyed, and other property wrecked. To return to the relief committee—the active members being Dan Thomas and John Redpath—we have no figures to give of their work, but they render their account to Uncle Sam. We believe they have faithfully, and to the best of their ability, discharged their duty. Of

course, they have not pleased all—that would be beyond human power. The following is a list of those who lost by the flood: Harry Stobart, Samuel Runion, David H. Williams, Thomas Auflick, Mrs. John R. Jones, John Sands, Mrs. C. Davis, Mrs. Nancy Hood, Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Elizabeth Jones, Edward Rees, Perry Wise, Arch McCullum, Robert Hughes, William Bath, Sr., Mrs. Peter Jones, J. R. Arnold, William Edwards, Thomas Stobart, John West moreland, Daniel L. Thomas, E. Williams (\$8,000), Jacob P. Jones, Thomas Williams, James Karr, John Rodgers, Daniel L. Lewis, Mrs. Kaziah Jones, Thomas Powell, Sr., William Thomas (the second), I. N. Hall, Mrs. Doyle.

Camp-fires and blanket-shanties along the hill tops, says the *Meigs County Herald*, were not unfamiliar sights. Many buildings were picked up and jammed around promiscuously. Thos. Francis had the only house out of water, and at one time had seventy-five persons in his house. Syracuse came near going under entirely. The buildings, says the *Herald*, "along the river bank were entirely submerged with the exception of the roofs. The College building was used as a refuge for the homeless sufferers. Provisions were short. Suffering here was probably not so great as at other places; but it was bad enough.

The Syracuse Coal and Salt Co. could not furnish an estimate of their losses, but it will be away up in the thousands. Both the Slope and the Shaft mines are flooded. It will take at least six or eight months to pump them out. Upon these works many hundred men depend for their living, and if the mines are destroyed Syracuse is gone. The loss of household property was considerable; residents expected no such rise, consequently failed to move their goods in time. Not a house nor a building of any sort has drifted away, but many are in bad condition.

NEW HAVEN.

"A city set on a hill cannot be hid." Little New Haven is about the only place in the vicinity of Pomeroy that was anyway out of water. The salt works were damaged slightly, but to no considerable extent. A few hundred dollars will cover the entire loss. The coal banks were above high water, as were most of the company houses. Suffering was not very great, the furnaces had been running pretty steadily, and most of the hands had something to their credit. New Haven fared well.

HARTFORD CITY.

When we came to Hartford, the same old familiar sight, of a drowned out town, greeted our eyes. The town is almost perfectly level, and the water covered the place clear to the hills. Mr. A. L. Sehon was unfortunate enough to lose several head of cattle, hogs, etc., by drowning. Household goods, and property in general throughout the town was destroyed. Winkleblack's stave mill was left, but the heading, staves and lumber had been swept away. Hartford suffered very little for want of provision. The people packed up what stores they could get, and took to the hill. People lived in rough shanties as contentedly as though they were palaces.

MASON CITY.

Mason City was only partially covered by water. The back end of the town, owing to its height, was not touched by the flood. John Mees & Son's saw

mill was covered by water. They succeeded in saving most of their lumber, saw logs, shingles, staves, etc. The Hope Salt Company's loss is between \$4,000 and \$5,000. A portion of their salt sheds was carried away. The loss in manufactured salt to the company is considerable. The Mason City Salt Co.'s sheds, etc., are mostly all O. K. This furnace has not been in operation for over a year, so they had no salt to lose. Learner's bromine sheds broke loose and floated down against the Hope Salt sheds.

CLIFTON.

Clifton, not to be outdone, went under water, with the rest of the world. The Bedford Salt Company lost, and is damaged, to some considerable extent. The Standard Iron and Nail Works, flooded; loss \$10,000. The Sterling Coal Works lost \$1,500. Clifton has not suffered so terribly as it might. G. W. Heinisch, leading merchant, lost \$3,500.

The Nora Belle, relief boat from Gallipolis, left on her first visit of relief to these places, including Pomeroy, with supplies for the following number of persons: Camden, W. Va., 300; West Columbia, W. Va., 400; Clifton, W. Va., 600; Middleport, O., 2,000; Pomeroy, O., 925; Mason City, W. Va., 400; German Furnace, W. Va., 100; Minersville, O., 1,200; Syracuse, O., 700; Hartford City, W. Va., 500; Racine, O., 125; Antiquity, O., 150.

A correspondent of the *News Journal*, accompanying the Stockdale on a relief trip just after the waters began going down, says:

"To paint the scenes of destruction in the ruined towns, of demolished buildings, overturned and wrecked houses and bridges, mud and debris, needs simply this one word, 'awful.' Let the imagination picture its worst, and it will not equal the work of the flood upon this once bright land of Pomeroy Bend."

It has been ascertained that 500 or more houses were swept out of the bend. Six of its twenty coal mines flooded, 8,000 people idle and next thing to homeless, is the situation on this Saturday, February 9.

Monday morning,

FEBRUARY 11,

the water reached its greatest height at Pomeroy. It averaged all along the bend a depth of sixty-four feet, but here it was sixty-four feet six inches. It went down very slowly, as it had done above, and as it was best for it to do, as a rapid decline would have carried more buildings and property into the current; but, as the *Pomeroy Telegraph* said, "It seemed a long and wearisome time to our people, penned up in second stories and other quarters to wait before they could

get into their places of business and workshops to clean them out and prepare to resume the avocations of life." Thirty-six houses left the town; among them Epline's drug store, Mike Epple's wareroom, Mrs. B. Weiskettle's baker shop, the Pomeroy Reading Room, Schont's saloon, E. Joseph's residence, Geiger's harness shop (caught at Gallipolis), Geo. Smith's tailor shop, Sam. Garen's business house, with all its goods, John Wipple's shoe shop, A. Blumenthal's dry goods and notion store, N. Curtiss' saloon, the drum-house of the Buckeye Salt Works, J. Elberfield's store-house, Henry Neutzling's store-house, Sam. Hodges' music store, Nick Renter's saloon, the Pomeroy Soap Factory, Juhler's bromine works, Con. Steiff's saloon, Mrs. Kepp's residence, C., H. V. & T. R. R. depot (caught on the Jenkins farm below Gallipolis), Jedro's dwelling, and various other dwellings, business houses and barns, to the number of thirty-six, besides about 150 that were moved from their foundations.

From Racine, ten miles above Pomeroy, to two miles below, the devastation was wide-spread, and had only the appearance of general wreck and ruin in a sea of angry waters. It was a frightful picture that can hardly be realized now that the water has gone down. We append a list of losses as given by the *Telegraph*, with a few slight changes as we have been informed through other sources:

City Bank, \$50; Will Scheiber, 50.00; Dr. J. H. Jones, 350.00; John S. Davis & Son, 150.00; B. Baer, 150.00; Geo. Masser & Co., 200.00; J. C. Probst & Son, 500.00; E. W. Rine, 75.00; D. Geyer, 350.00; David Lark, 25.00; Peter Rappold, 600.00; V. F. Frizell, 1,200.00; Mrs. Milly Henderson, 300.00; Adam Barthel, 300.00; Mrs. Martin Stahl, 200.00; Fred Turner, 100.00; Wm. Wehe, 200.00; Mrs. Vincent, 100.00; Levi Woods and Henry Streets, 50.00; Geo. P. Stout, 1,000.00; D. L. Geyer, 300.00; Mrs. Wm. Lee, 100.00; Henry Koehler, 700.00; Frank Humphrey, 100.00; Wash Russell, 250.00; Ed. Hennessey, 200.00; Jacob Dorst, 200.00; Henry Neutzling, 100.00; Dr. Hysell, 100.00; Ed. Hampton, 150.00; W. J. Prall, 50.00; John Bartlett, 125.00; Dr. Allard, 200.00; Geo. Eiselstein, 75.00; C. Dale, 250.00; H. Priode, 350.00; W. A. Aicher, 400.00; Nick Curtiss, 600.00; Monkey Run Coal Co., 50.00; Leonard Kepp, 750.00; John Dyke, 250.00; John Voss, 75.00; C., H. V. & T. R. R. ticket-office, 25.00; B. S. McComas, 550.00; Mrs. M. Shilling, 100.00; Andy Geyer, 700.00; Peter Rappold, 700.00; Conrad Steiff, 4,000.00; Abraham Mees, 500.00; C., H. V. & T. R. R., 5,000.00; Thayer Horton, 500.00; Mrs. Duncan Sloan, 200.00; Welch Calvinistic Church, 300.00; Judge J. P. Bradbury, 500.00; John Loudansheil, 400.00; Mrs. Anna Michael, 200.00; Henry Fisher, 50.00; O. H. Odell, 150.00; Dabney Salt Furnace, 4,000.00; Pomeroy Coal Company, 1,000.00; Mrs. Miller, 250.00; John Hopp, 350.00; Sam Silveman, 400.00; I.

J. Juhler, 5,000.00; A. D. Weed, 950.00; August Goessler, 300.00; Mrs. M. P. Barclay, 100.00; D. Geyer, 200.00; Thos. Whiteside, 250.00; A. W. Seeböhm, 2,000.00; J. C. Meininger, 700.00; Mrs. Denbach, 100.00; Seyfried Bros., 600.00; B. Keebler, 100.00; German Furniture Company, 1,000.00; Miss Antoinette Osborn, 500.00; Frank Wipple, 500.00; Henry Ewing, 225.00; B. F. Biggs, 540.00; Henry Dilcher, 200.00; J. C. Marris, 50.00; George McQuigg, 600.00; S. A. M. Moore & Co., 1,300.00; Wm. Wolff, 300.00; Mrs. Patton, 50.00; Geo. Weyersmiller, 100.00; M. Frank, 400.00; Nick Klein, 150.00; Chas. Schorn, 100.00; Peacock Coal Co., 50.00; Pomeroy Salt Furnace, 7,000.00; F. F. Humphrey, 100.00; Henry Werner, 100.00; Mrs. Susan Hobt, 100.00; Adam Darling, 100.00; John Thress, 2 800.00; Walter Jenks, 150.00; A. Blumenthal, 2,500.00; W. H. Remington, 1,000.00; Chris. Koontz, 100.00; Edmund Gregory, 40.00; John Thomas, 100.00; Mrs. Catherine Gray, 300.00; John Baum, 500.00; John Geyer, 100.00; John Franz, 500.00; Geo. Rubenstall, 300.00; Wm. Lust, 250.00; Isaac Baer, 500.00; H. M. Horton, 200.00; H. S. Horton, 200.00; A. B. Donnally, 500.00; Samuel McKnight, 450.00; Robert Richardson, 100.00; E. F. Feiger, 400.00; George Wandel, 400.00; B. R. Remington, 100.00; Isaac Bradfield, 100.00; Geo. Keyser, 50.00; Mrs. Ruse, 100.00; Mrs. Robert Atkinson, 50.00; Robert Craggs, 300.00; Mrs. John Brechtel, 600.00; John Schantz, 250.00; Central School Building, 200.00; Syracuse Coal & Salt Co., 15,000.00; Mrs. Jane Walters, 1,000.00; Pomeroy Machine Co., 800.00; D. L. Geyer's mill, 400.00; Buckeye Salt Furnace, 4,000.00; Wendel Kantz, 150.00; D. S. Lewis, 2,000.00; Mrs. Samuel Church, 300.00; Mike Blaettner, 600.00; Joseph Conde, 200.00; Henry Wehe, 100.00; John Krause, 200.00; Mrs. Fritz Ohminger, 400.00; Col. C. Grant, 1,000.00; B. C. Nye, 200.00; Crescent Iron Works, 500.00; Theo. Niggermeyer, 800.00; G. Wildermuth, 5,000.00; Mike Schlaegel, 1,500.00; Edwards & Bro., 400.00; Geo. Fahnle, 400.00; Dr. Eppeline, 500.00; Jas. Bryne, 500.00; Frank Diehl, 300.00; Mike Eppel, 1,000.00; Chas. Katz, 500.00; Dr. Rehm, 150.00; Welch Baptist Church (Kerr's Run), 200.00; C. M. Morton, 300.00; Pete Dorst, 400.00; Wm. McClain, 200.00; Mrs. Edwin Weeks, 400.00; Benedict Davis, 300.00; St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 250.00; Rev. Wm. Schmidt, 125.00; Thomas Wheatley, 125.00; John Bartlett, 125.00; Presbyterian Church, 300.00; D. Reed & Son, 300.00; D. Reed, 600.00; J. C. Probst & Son, 500.00; Coalridge Salt Furnace, 4,000.00; Mrs. Frank Taylor, 25.00; John Mora, 500.00; Louis Godfried, 200.00; Mrs. B. Weiskittle, 500.00; August Zahl, 700.00; Mrs. M. M. Kennedy, 1,000.00; Mr. Weidt, 500.00; *Pomeroy Journal*, unestimated; G. W. Geiger, 200.00; Mrs. Mary Hinnelein, 250.00; Ed. Joseph, 500.00; Excelsior Salt Works, 2,500.00; Herman Lerner's Bromine Works, a total wreck, unestimated; McKnight & Fisher, 500.00; Capt. Ed. Williamson, 1,250.00; Wm. Tucker, 100.00; Frank Lucke, 500.00; Chas. Arhen, 50.00; Rev. T. T. Williams, 100.00. Total, \$123,905.00.

This is a fearful contribution on a little city, not falling in most cases on those best able to bear it, but often on those whose last dollar was taken from them. Every man who is fifty dollars ahead in the world is independent. This is fifty

dollars each for over 6,000 people. And honestly as the list may be given, it will not cover actual loss by many thousands. Many of those enumerated above are great losers at other points up and down the river. It does not include thousands of dollars of labor in trying to save what was left, nor loss to streets, nor getting in shape stores and residences, the destruction to streets, sidewalks, culverts, nor the losses which will be counted for a year hence in the way of trade from those who lost in the whole surrounding country their crops, fences and out-buildings. All the way up Leading Creek to Rutland the losses to farmers were very heavy, and that village itself was put to great loss and inconvenience that we have not space to note. At this place the water was eight feet above 1883, and caught many farmers in all the surrounding country, who find it hard to estimate their losses in fences, fodder, straw, outbuildings, and the like. The drowned stock alone on the farms between Pomeroy and Pittsburgh, will amount to hundreds of thousands of dollars. There are many instances given of scores of horses, mules, cattle and hogs being drowned.

The story of Middleport's woe is but a repetition of Pomeroy's fearful experience. The following is a partial list of losses in that place:

Berry & Skinner, \$900.00; Ed. Powell, 900.00; E. Davis & Co., 2,000.00; Burt Green, 2,600.00; Barnes & Chase, 2,000.00; T. H. Dawson, 500.00; T. B. Lawson, both stores, 2,500.00; Ohio Machine Company, 1,000.00; Hayes & Cook, 200.00; I. Jones, 400.00; Ed. Lark, 300.00; F. P. Bryan, 300.00; Robert Barnes, 800.00; T. R. Smith, 1,500; P. Hugg, 200.00; James Park, 1,000.00; W. B. Probst, 1,400.00; William Horden, 1,000.00; S. M. Hysell, 700.00; Thomas Turner, 800.00; T. I. & Charles Williams, 500.00; Gussie Mack, 200.00; D. Enoch, 200.00; Marine Docks and mill, 800.00; R. R. Hudson, extra labor, 850.00; Grif. Michael, 2,500.00; E. D. Jones, 200.00; H. Scharff, 500.00; W. M. Hartinger, 600.00; Grogan & Berg, 300.00; W. M. Swallow, 100.00; A. Calderwood, Sr., 1,500.00; A. Calderwood, Jr., 400.00; J. A. Rumsey, 600.00; Paragon Drug Store, 75.00; McElhinny Bros., 600.00; Charles Root, 500.00; C. F. Besserer, 75.00; W. E. Stansbury, 1,500.00; J. C. McElhinney, 1,200.00; Mrs. Anderson, 250.00; Wm. Swisher, 2,000.00; German Furniture Company, 2,500.00; W. B. Pennington, 2,000.00; S. S. Tubbs, 500.00; R. W. Vaughn, 300.00; S. D. Webb, 2,000.00; Chair Factory, 1,000.00; A. Burkert, 1,000.00; Joseph Fahnle, 300.00; Talbott & Bro., 200.00; S. F. Smith, 300.00; Finley Wells, 500.00; Adam McLain, 200.00.

The Middleport *Republican* says: "This does not include losses in the homes, for 99 out of every 100 homes in Middle-

port were under water. The woolen mill is a great loser, and all traders and dealers are in the same boat, or rather out of it."

To stand here and look up the river, and see nearly the whole population that was able to remain in their houses at all in the second and third stories, and thousands in churches, school-houses, public halls, jails, court-houses, flat boats, steamboats, even on rafts, and in brush and board shanties, tents and blankets spread on poles, with one side against some huge rock or hill, for a distance of over 200 miles, was enough to move a heart of adamant, and although provisions and all sorts of supplies were hurried to them as fast as their condition became known, yet many in isolated places were pushed for something to eat, and drowned cows and hogs were caught in the mighty flood, and towed to shore and cut up and eaten. Cattle were only too glad to get on a hill or knoll where there was nothing for them to browse on but the tender twigs of trees, dead leaves, and weeds. Horses and mules were often taken to high points, and hastily corraled or fastened to fences or trees, and no opportunity occurring afterward to remove them until the water went down, were found drowned or barely able to stand alone from hunger, having gnawed the fences and trees to which they were hitched, till it was ghastly and sickening to look upon. Many horses, hogs and cattle were saved from the parlors and best rooms of the lower stories of residences, where they had been driven or found their way in, and there some of them remained, and when the water went down were found dead on staircases and in halls and parlors. These things appear almost incredible since the flood passed away, but were veritable facts, as can be testified to by hundreds. Indeed, it was in the fine bottom lands along the river where the greatest trials and most thrilling scenes occurred, and if it were possible to ascertain individual losses of fences, buildings, crops and stock, they would come near averaging with the towns that are interspersed along between. There are the Cheshire bottoms, below Middleport. The fences are in a manner *all* gone, and they are high bottoms, too. The river was four or five miles wide here, and the village of Cheshire was nearer to the West Virginia hills than it was to those of Gallia County. Many farmers only saved their stock by making huge piles of straw and hay and huddling their cattle upon them. About 100 head of all sorts of stock was rescued by steamboats from Gallipolis. The loss to the bottoms and

to the village was great. T. R. Weed lost \$1,300; Franklin Smith, \$600; William Boice, \$3,000; Dayton Ashworth, \$1,500. Frank Boice was a heavy loser, part of his house being turned over and smashed up. The St. Charles Hotel was badly damaged. Resener & Co. lost heavily. The Globe Coal Works were heavy sufferers. Milo Guthrie, \$500. C. A. Carl & Co., coal miners, also lose heavily. Many farmers around lost cattle, horses and hogs. Wash. Swisher's house went to another man's farm. The people of Cheshire were greatly alarmed, and they had good reason to be, as the water, according to Captain Alf. Day's marks, was eight feet and an inch above last year. The water was flowing several feet deep through the village, and the people were all trying to live as best they could in the upper stories of their houses. The water was nine feet deep in the old Kyger Church. The relief boats were hailed with joy and gratitude. The Pittsburg towboat *Lioness* rendered great aid here by supplying the destitute with coal and taking stock on her barges.

Several farmers above Cheshire had to move from their homes, among them Henry Watson's family, William Roush, Meck. Switzer's family, Mrs. Philanda Watson, and others. After the water subsided Mr. Sig. Mauck was engaged in drying out his residence, the old Joseph Mauck homestead, when it caught fire from a flue made defective by the flood, and burned down. Loss about \$2,500. At Addison they had hills to flee to, and the stock in that vicinity were driven to them. The houses along the river, however, took water. The store of Mr. D. R. S. Schaffer was flooded, and several families were obliged to move, and were put to much inconvenience and loss. Some strange and novel incidents were met with in these bottoms, such as rabbits, cats, rats, and all sorts of varmints of the small kind being found in tree tops. Snakes, even, were found in some bottom lands in the boughs of the trees, and some are known to have been killed that were over five feet long, the remorseless waters driving out of their holes everything that had life, and putting in motion even the things without life.

We now come to Point Pleasant, W. Va., a bright, prosperous little city, at the mouth of the Kanawha River. To look at her to-day,

FEBRUARY 10,

one can hardly refrain from tears. The Point Pleasant *Register* is authority for the statement that the water was six

feet seven inches above 1832. In the lower part of the city houses were overturned and swept away, and many poor people left homeless. There was not a foot of dry land in the town. The *Register* says:

"In Henderson, just across the Kanawha River, many of the houses have been swept away, and a number overturned and floated from their foundations, chief among which was the storehouse of Hutchinson & Co., and the dwelling house of Andy Wilson, together with its contents. Every home in Point Pleasant was inundated, except the residence of John W. English and the old cooper shop. Those fortunate enough to have two-storied residences moved above as the flood came, and provided for those of their less fortunate fellow beings, so far as their space and larder would admit. Many of the citizens, with comfortable little homes, saw their all swept away in a few short hours. The hearthstones of many, around which naught save happiness and peace clustered, have been forever rendered desolate by an angry flood. Circuit Court, which was in session, saw the approach of the flood, and gave up the Court House to those who, at that early hour, the 5th inst., were compelled to flee from the waste of waters. A large number of the colored people sought the friendly shelter of the comfortable building, and many moved their household goods and merchandise therein, and remained until the flood abated. The water was on the lower floor of the Court House four feet and two inches by actual measurement, and the law offices on that floor were completely submerged, many losing valuable papers and law books. Simpson & Howard, John W. English, and John E. Timms saved their libraries almost intact. The greatest sufferers were Menager, Hogg & Spencer, who, besides losing many of their books, were so unfortunate as to get the valuable law library of the late H. J. Fisher, which was in their charge, considerably damaged. Judge Guthrie and John A. Gibbons also lost some of their books, as did Tomlinson & Polsley. Rankin Wiley and James H. Couch escaped with but little damage to their libraries. During the time when the water was at its highest, the hardware store of Mr. W. B. Cable took fire from slacking lime, and burned to the second story. His loss will exceed \$5,000 over and above his insurance of \$3,500. Every house in town that had a second story above water was crowded to its utmost capacity with people. Those who had houses on high ground, whether in town or near to it, kindly threw open their doors and their tables to the distressed people. The *Register* office was in a sorry plight indeed, and it will take lots of money to put it in the condition it was before the flood. It has resumed business at the same old stand, however. The *Gazette* was more fortunate. The office was moved to the upper story of Dr. Barbee's office, and did not sustain much damage. A couple of hundred dollars will make the office all right again. Colonel Smith rendered great service to the people. He commanded a flat boat, and went to the assistance of the distressed day and night. It will take a hundred thousand dollars to put this town to rights again. Mr. Gideon Brown, in the lower end of the county, lost some \$500 in grain and fencing."

For some time after the waters fell 1,500 people were fed by the committees, and they were packed in the unflooded upper stories like sardines. Two hundred and fifty were in the second story of the court-house.

We give Editor Tippet's experience in his own language, and it will find an echo in the heart of many an Ohio River editor who ran through the same gauntlet of trouble :

" We went to the expense of moving our office on the night of the 5th, just as the water was coming over the pavement in front of our office. We placed our stationery and types in the office of Messrs. Wiley and Couch, which was said to be some five feet higher than the great flood of 1832, but notwithstanding this precaution all our material was completely submerged, and our types, stationery, cases, stands, desks and office furniture danced a merry jig to the laughing waters. Besides this, our household goods and wearing apparel of self and family were completely submerged, and much of it rendered unfit for use. Our house was also badly damaged, and all our out-buildings floated off and fences destroyed. When the waters had receded and we entered our residence and printing office building, the last named which tried to leave us, our heart was dismayed, and we were discouraged, and almost despaired of ever again trying to regain our former position, but when we reflected that there were many others who were greater sufferers, we looked at the matter philosophically, and at once determined to do or die. Our house is now rather habitable, and we issue this paper from our old office, yet incrustated with mud, and with difficulty have picked enough type from our leaky cases, filled with mud, to print it. Only those who have tried to get out a paper under such circumstances can appreciate our trial. We propose to stay among our friends and assist in whatever way we can to rebuild this town and help her gain that position among towns that she ought to hold. Then let us all go to work and help one another. There is no use to stand around regretting and pining over our losses. The only way to recover is by hard and constant work."

We append the following list of losses, as given by the Mason County (Point Pleasant) *Gazette*, with some slight alterations :

E. J. Mossman, \$400 ; J. H. Gilmore, \$400 ; Mrs. Jennie Martin, \$500 ; the Misses Risk, \$200 ; Isaiah Gibbs, \$300 ; Gazette, \$200 ; C. C. Miller (County), \$3,000 ; Wm. Smith, \$2,500 ; J. W. Bryan, \$1,200 ; Capt. Jos. Hein, \$2,400 ; P. S. Lewis (County), \$5,000 ; E. S. Bright (Brighton), \$3,500 ; W. T. Wiley (County), \$1,500 ; Jas. H. Couch (County), \$4,000 ; Sam'l & Peter Couch (County), \$4,000 ; J. H. Miller & Co. (County), \$6,000 ; Jas. W. Long (County), \$3,000 ; W. A. Long (County), \$4,000 ; Jno. R. Couch (County), \$2,000 ; J. B. M. McGuffin (County), \$1,500 ; and down in Mercer's Bottom: C. T. Beale, \$2,000 ; J. W. Steenbergen, \$6,000 ; Jos. Arrington, \$1,500 ; Judge Moore, \$2,000 ; C. M. Moore, \$2,000 ; E. L. Neale, \$1,500 ;

John S. Hanly, \$1,000; A. A. Hanly, and Hanly & Neale, \$3,000; total, \$64,400. But this does not include damaged dwellings or houses swept away. The following suffered, some very heavily, in various ways, but the amounts are not estimated: Dr. L. F. Campbell, Dr. W. S. Hoy, Dr. S. G. Shaw, Kline House Stable, T. Stribling Stable, W. B. Cable, five buildings moved; school-house, colored school-house, both Crooked Creek bridges, Perry Kenwood, Gibbs Bros., three houses; G. B. Thomas' iron roofing factory, A. C. Vangilder, Geo. Jordan, Col. J. P. R. B. Smith, B. Gilmore, J. D. McCullough, P. C. Eastham, J. S. O. Roark & Co., Friedman & Co., Hess & Co., B. Franklin, J. G. Stortz, Mrs. Vollerts, Misses Jones, Geo. B. Sayre, Polsley & Shaw, and scores of others in the town and country.

Turning up the Kanawha River, we find scarcely a farm but was damaged, and some to a great extent, the water reaching from hill to hill, as it did in the Ohio, and oftentimes between four and five miles between the hills.

The town of Leon, thirteen miles up the Kanawha, suffered severely. There was hardly a house in the town but what was submerged, and many were moved from their foundations. The merchants lost heavily by having their goods damaged. The loss to the timber men along Thirteen-Mile creek, in saw logs, lumber, staves, railroad ties and tan-bark, can hardly be estimated. Many people in that part of the county have lost their accumulations of years, and now find themselves without a cent in the world. The town presented the appearance of a huge pile of blocks, all thrown promiscuously together, but the people were very "gritty" and at no time were much inclined to receive aid without paying for it. Besides several houses being carried off, the county bridge across "Thirteen" was washed to pieces.

Leaving Leon, we strike out for Buffalo. Hardly a man we meet but tells of stock drowned, fences, cribs, granaries, carriage houses, smoke-houses, or barns carried away, together with corn, hay, and fodder. The sight all along is a sad one. Staves, cross ties and saw logs adorn the banks on both sides, and in some places seem to have been carried high up on the hill sides by the mighty tide. The Ohio Central Railroad is in a fearful condition from Point Pleasant to Buffalo—not a trestle or bridge standing, with the exception of the bridge across "Eighteen." Some of the bridges are nearly washed off the abutments, others are turned upside down. Forces are at work repairing, but it will be a long time before trains are running to Charleston again from Point Pleasant. Some sickening stories are told of want and destitution in the lower part of the Kanawha

Valley when the waters were at their highest; hard to believe now, but from what has come under our own observation, we have no reason to dispute them, though it would have taken too much time and research to answer the purposes of a work like this, to have ascertained the exact facts in all cases. It is said, and we believe it to be true, that several women suffered confinement, almost entirely without protection, in the pitiless storm of February 10th and 11th. One lady gave birth to a boy baby in a skiff in the darkness of night, while the rain was pouring down in torrents, and while being conveyed to a place of safety by her husband, who had been the whole day gone in search of a skiff, and only arriving in time to rescue his wife and little boy, while she was in the pangs of labor.

The flood was very disastrous to Buffalo, inundating the lower ground of the town and submerging about 50 houses, some of them almost entirely. "The citizens of the flooded portions were compelled to seek the more elevated parts of the town for temporary habitation. Among those who lost merchandise were L. A. Carr & Co., John Nease, Robert Alexander, C. C. Workman and Mrs. Horn. The wants of the Buffalo people were readily looked after by the Government boats, Winona and Bee." Mr. L. A. Carr deserves credit for the charity extended by him to the sufferers. He ordered the Telephone there (he being the President of the Kanawha Packet Line) from Gallipolis, on the 10th, to save lives and property, and invited all the citizens of the town to come on board of her and the Sallie Freeze (another boat of the line) and stay and sleep and eat until the flood was over. The people were only too glad to accept his kind offer. Her little sister town of Winfield, more fortunate in being above the tide, sent about \$100 worth of provisions for her immediate use, and she did not come to actual want, but yet so near that the recollection of February 10th, 1884, will never fade. Not only will the bitterness of that day be remembered, but, as a citizen said to us, "neither will the brotherly kindness manifested by all on that terrible occasion ever be forgotten." If the people had dreamed of the water reaching the height it did, they could have made ample preparation and saved themselves from all loss on household goods and stocks of merchandise, at least; but with stoves, provisions and bed clothing, and all other clothing, except what they had on their backs, under water, they came through the vale of suffering right side up. The bridge below Buffalo is

wrecked and the road caved in, and will be a great loss to the town and neighborhood.

Above Buffalo there was no suffering except in isolated cases of farmers, whose wants and necessities were in a great measure immediately relieved by friendly neighbors; but there were the usual losses in lowlands, such as have been heretofore depicted. Fortunate indeed was it that the Great Kanawha did not reach some of its more formidable heights, or the scenes in the Valley would have been too great to have been told in a work of the dimensions of this. As a matter of interest and reference we append the following from the *Charleston Tribune*:

From the U. S. Engineer's office we obtain the following interesting data, showing the water gauge in the Kanawha at Charleston: Nov. 25, 1877, at 1:30 P. M., 35.10 feet; Sept. 14, 1878, at 2:00 P. M., 41.60 feet; Jan. 14 1879, at 2:00 A. M., 36.60 feet; Feb. 8, 1883, at 6:00 A. M., 25.95 feet; Feb. 12, 1883, at 12:00 M., 26.05 feet; April 1, 1883, at 11:30 A. M., 25.09 feet; April 7, 1883, at 8:30 A. M., 25.35 feet; Feb. 12, 1884, at 4:00 P. M., 28.80 feet. The freshet in September, 1878, brought the water along Virginia Street, so that skiffs passed from the woolen mills up as far as Col. Appleton's residence on Dunbar Street. On the Virginia Street Square, where the *Tribune* office now stands, only a few feet along the pavements remained above the flood. This is the highest tide in this city for the last fourteen years. The renowned 1832 freshet is said to have reached a point several feet higher.

Returning from the Kanawha and entering the Ohio, we are confronted with the little village of Fair Haven, Ohio, opposite Point Pleasant. It was generally flooded to the depth of several feet, the water extending clear back to the Ohio Hills, and so clear on down the Ohio to Mill Creek, above Gallipolis, a distance of four miles. There were very few farmers (none in the bottoms), even those living upon the highest knolls and points and closest to the hills, but had to move, and were swept bare of fences, dwellings or out-houses, and put to great loss and labor in saving stock and property, and indeed, in many instances, could have saved nothing had it not been for timely aid received from sympathizing friends below. The residence of Mr. Emery Bailey, on the Ohio side, below the mouth of the Kanawha, was located just after the flood of 1832, and is the very highest point off of the hills between the mouth of the Kanawha and Gallipolis. At that time the water did not come over it, but it was now four feet in the house. From Fair Haven down to Mill Creek, above Gallipolis, the losses foot up, in-

cluding Fuller, Hutsinpillar & Co.'s lumber, piled at Gatewood & Co.'s saw-mill, and Gatewood & Co.'s damage to mill machinery, fully \$12,000. This is in the territory of river bottom, about one mile deep, by about four miles of river front. Those who suffered mostly are as follows: Jas. Black, Reuben Allen, Frank Guthrie, Wm. Stone, Henry Shepard, John Sanns, John T. Hampton, Edward Willis, John Rothgeb, Emery Bailey, S. G. Keller, Mrs. Sarah Graham, Sam'l Logue, Capt. J. J. Maxon, Adam Carter, Mrs. Joshua Canaday. These all come under \$1,000. Those who lost \$1,000 and upwards are as follows: John Deem, John Bryan, C. D. Bailey, D. W. Davies, Gatewood & Co., and Fuller, Hutsinpillar & Co.

Jake Banks, Joshua Page, Adam Carter, Joe Webster, Gaines, the plasterer; Jas. Viney, all colored, and John M. Cherry, the carpenter; Isaiah Walters, Jas. Peck, Sam Logue, E. S. Tippins, Basil Betz, Jas. Compton, Mrs. Henshaw and Mr. Clinger, all living above Mill Creek, had to move out of their houses.

Passing Gallipolis for the present, which was entirely surrounded with water, by Mill Creek emptying into the Ohio above, and Chickamauga Creek below, their waters uniting between the town and the hills behind, and the broad, sweeping river in front, but the city itself above water, we will note the situation of Millersport and Athalia, villages below, in their order.

We are indebted to Dr. H. V. Sanns, of Millersport, for an account of the situation of things there. The Doctor writes: Millersport suffered severely from the flood. Two-thirds of our village lies on very low ground, the other third more elevated and known as "The Raise." The water in places was eighteen feet deep, and averaged about twelve feet on the low ground, and about five feet on "The Raise." There were only two houses in the place not in water. Eighteen dwellings floated entirely away; also one drug store, one millinery store, and one cooper shop; six dwellings floated off their foundations that did not leave the town. [The drug store aluded to was the property of Andy Griffith, and was taken ashore at Ashland; Reckard & Hay got all their goods on the wharf-boat and saved themselves from great loss.] A store house belonging to J. M. Baker floated off, and lodged in an orchard a hundred yards away. All outbuildings and fences in the lower part of town floated off. The total loss is estimated here at \$11,000, Mr. A. Griffith being the heaviest

loser. The loss at Athalia was about \$9,000, Mr. Robert Wylie being the largest loser at that place. The town is situated similar to Millersport, a portion being very low land. Eight dwellings, one drug store, four cooper shops, besides all outbuildings, were carried off here. The depth of the water over the town was about the same as at Millersport, and there were also two houses there not in the water. The farmers living between the two towns lost very heavily, mostly in fences and fruit trees. We are at this date, March 13th, still living on government rations, the weather having been so bad, people could not go to work. Some will rebuild, but quite a number are unable to do so. It will take quite a while to put these towns back as they were before the flood.

The losses below Gallipolis, on the Ohio side, began at Clipper Mill, about three and a half miles down the river. In this region the principal losers were, Mr. Wm. Kinder, the John Nesbit estate, Rev. Hathaway, on the old Monroe Coffman farm; Ohio Chapel, Alf. Kinder, Mrs. Cottrell, Mrs. Phœbe Willey, Mrs. Hempfield. Below, clear on down to Chambersburg, the county suffers greatly in loss of bridges, viz.: The Walker iron bridge, the bridge at Plymales, the Pool bridge, Raccoon bridge, and the new bridge above Chambersburg. These bridges cost the county an immense amount of money; some of them were very new, all of them were first-class. In the Chambersburg region, Wm. Barker's loss is about \$3,000; Marshall & Wilhelm, \$200; Wm. Marshall, \$300; Walter Thorniley, \$350; Wallace Thorniley, \$350; Jehu McDaniel, \$500; W. D. Graham, \$400; Commissioner Jacob Riggs, not far from \$1,000. Bladensburg, a village a few miles below Chambersburg, suffered slightly, G. R. Smith and Col. J. H. M. Montgomery being the principal losers, suffering to the extent of about \$500 each. The losses below here on the Ohio side were principally sustained by the farmers in the way of fences, fodder, corn, etc. Crown City suffered but little.

GREEN BOTTOM.

Green Bottom, W. Va., was one of the unfortunate localities that suffered severely. It embraces a fine farming country, extending from Little Guyan to Eighteen-Mile Creek, or about opposite to Millersport, Ohio. The celebrated Jenkins estate, of nearly 2,000 acres of land, has a river front in Green Bottom of about seven miles. This is where the late General Albert Gallatin Jenkins, of Confeder-

ate fame, lived, and his brothers, Dr. Wm. Jenkins and Jefferson Jenkins, all dead now. The widows of the Doctor and Jefferson still live on these old farms. Mrs. S. L. Jenkins, widow of Jefferson, is a highly educated and refined lady. Her maiden name was Holderby. She is a graduate of the Ohio Wesleyan Female College at Cincinnati, and attended there at the same time Mrs. R. B. Hayes did, and they were great friends. Mrs. Jenkins was a great sufferer. Her losses will amount to six or seven thousand dollars by the flood. The homestead is a large brick mansion of fourteen rooms. This is left, but her portico and all frame out-buildings were swept away, and much valuable furniture, including a \$1,000 piano, elegant sideboard, bookcase, etc., entirely ruined. Twenty-one tenement houses were swept off of her farm, besides fences and much other property. A young orchard was washed up by the roots. Wheat fields were ruined in the same way. Their bee hives were piled up on scaffolding on the porch, but the water reached them in the night and they floated off. All the corn, hay and potatoes reserved for their own use were lost. All the mills in the neighborhood were ruined. Mrs. J.'s son Jefferson lost his mill, but secured the engine and mill after the flood, and energetically rebuilt. All the laboring portion of the community suffered terribly from the loss of these mills, not being able, many of them, to buy, and depending on their own grain for breadstuffs. During the height of the waters a woman was brought over from Millersport to the Dr. Jenkins' farm, at 3 o'clock in the morning, who had just been delivered of a child. Mrs. Jenkins' situation is but an illustration of nearly all that had as much to lose as she, but notwithstanding her losses, and notwithstanding that every day she saw many getting rations and supplies that lived in the hills back, and who had not suffered, she steadily refused all aid, and would hardly let one of her tenants do so. This was in bright contrast to so many who seemed to desire to hog it all in and divide nothing. •

PROCTORVILLE,

or Quaker Bottom, next engages our attention. The water reached its greatest height here on Tuesday,

FEBRUARY 12,

just one year exactly from the flood of 1883, and seven feet two inches higher than at that time. Nearly all of Proctor-

ville was under water. It only lacked five inches of getting into the Wilgus residence. There was two feet of water in Dr. Rickett's house, and three feet in R. W. Magee's. It was away up in the Methodist Church, and ruined the organ, and did much other damage. Mr. Mauck, merchant, got his stock well out and lost but little. Bush's mill suffered much damage. William Reckard lost all his tanbark. The colored settlement in the Bottom was cleaned out as it never was before. Fences, corn and hay took the general road to ruin. Miss Emma Beckett was buried the Sunday previous, the funeral cortege going to Rome in boats. It was a wilderness of woe in every direction. Supplies were furnished after the flood for sixty families. A letter from Mr. James P. Beall, a merchant of Proctorville, to his mother, Mrs. Henry Beall, of this city, gives a pretty good idea of the situation, and we make some extracts:

PROCTORVILLE, Ohio, Feb. 17, 1884.

Dear Mother and Folks at Home:

I worked myself nearly to death Saturday (9th) to get my goods three feet above the floors of both store and warehouse, and never thought of water reaching them. I then went to helping others in lower places. I carried children from the second stories of their houses, putting them in skiffs and taking them to the ferry boat. I even waded in the water, and carried men in and out their houses to enable them to save their goods. The water got five feet deep in my store and four feet eight inches in my warehouse. One of my counters capsized with nearly \$500 worth of clothing on it, and left the clothing covered with sediment. I got into the store on Wednesday and carried the clothing to the water and threw it in, getting all the dirt off we could, and then stretched lines and hung it out to dry. My boots and shoes were also in bad shape. Cashmeres, worsteds, domestics, prints, etc., suffered in the same way. In the wareroom I had nine barrels of sugar, which came to total loss. Sacks of coffee and barrels of rice swelled and bursted. Corn, wheat, pork, molasses, nails, vinegar, lard, and both of my wheat scales, and 100 bushels of potatoes that I had carried from the cellar, and many other smaller articles, were soaked in water. Horses, hogs and cows were taken to the hills on the ferry boat. Mr. B. J. Robinson and myself took our pails and went to milk for the benefit of those who were living in the second stories. I got a few ears of corn and a halter, and would give one bite to a cow while Mr. R. did the milking. If she failed to stand we would lasso her to a tree. We also killed, dressed and cooked chickens at Mr. Jacob Proctor's house. These good people assisted me greatly, besides many others, with my goods. My loss will not be less than \$2,000; from that to \$2,500. Our town, however, fared better than many others. Many people floated off in their houses along the river.

Your obedient son,

JAMES P. BEALL.

The following persons in Proctorville had their houses float off of their foundations: Thomas Losey, C. P. Tracy, Clark Bros., Calohan Miller, Benjamin Neal, Lewis Jones, James M. White, George W. McComas. The water was in every residence in town except those of Captain George W. Bay and Mr. Charles Wilgus. Some 90 or 100 families were obliged to move. Many took their pigs into their parlors, but soon found that would not do, and moved them upstairs with the balance of the family. William G. Smith took his ferry boat up Front Street to Bush Bros'. mill, and took on sixty barrels of flour, and brought it to the B. T. Enos, to keep it from being carried off by the water. The Enos took the flour and crossed the water back of the town to the hill, and tied up at the lower end of Magee's orchard.

At Haskellville, R. W. Wiley, merchant, lost his cooper shop with 4,000 nail kegs, 500 flour barrels, 400 apple barrels, and had his machinery and shop damaged to the extent of \$3,000. Thomas Losey lost his home and contents. He had nine in family, and when driven out only had four days' rations. Clark Bros. and John A. Bowen lost considerable in staves, poles, etc.

Gwinn Brothers, at Glenwood, Ohio, have furnished us with the following list of losses between Eighteen and Little Guyan: Henry Gwinn, \$500; Gwinn Bros., \$900; C. W. Hogsett, \$500; Joseph A. McClary, \$75; J. E. Hannan, \$125; H. C. Campbell, \$1,200; Jesse Wells, \$225; George Barrows, \$50; E. C. Hannan, \$100; E. S. Hannan, \$200.

The following chapter on Guyandotte is from the pen of J. R. Wiatt, Esq., a citizen of that place:

"On the morning of February 8th, our people awoke to find Guyandotte surrounded by water; which continued to advance steadily at the rate of three inches an hour throughout the whole of that day. By twelve o'clock a great many houses in the lower portion of the town were flooded, and the building of boats and rafts, and the moving of live stock to the hills back of town began in earnest. Those who lived in two-story houses moved to the second floor, and their less favored neighbors placed their household goods on scaffolds, and moved to the school house and Catholic Church, which are above the marks of the greatest floods of which we have any record. At three o'clock on the morning of the 9th, the water reached the maximum height of 1883, and continued to advance at the rate of two inches an hour. The oldest inhabitant moved his perishable property above the marks of '32 and '47 (which latter at this place is just one foot above the mark of '83), and rested content, saying it was impossible that the water could reach him there. But his predictions had not the slightest tendency to stop the sullen swelling of the river, which continued to rise two

inches an hour up to eleven o'clock, when it checked, and up to two o'clock in the afternoon had not risen an inch. Hopes were entertained that the worst was over, and that the water, now ten inches higher than ever before known, would soon begin to recede. But it was soon apparent that a second rise was coming, and the greatest apprehensions were expressed as to the probable consequences. Before the next morning there was not a foot of dry land in the town. At seven o'clock on the morning of the 10th, the water was rising at the rate of one inch an hour. The people who had moved to the second stories of their houses, and who had neither expected nor prepared for so long an imprisonment, began to be in want for fuel and provisions, and on learning of their condition, Joseph Anderson, J. K. Suiter and others, procured a small lighter, and loading it with coal from the coal yard of Freeman & Burks, and with provisions from the grocery of A. E. Smith, which had been moved to the Odd Fellows' Hall, proceeded to distribute supplies to those who could not help themselves. By two o'clock, people who had taken refuge in the two Methodist churches had to decamp, and were removed in boats to the railroad depots. The rate of the rise had increased to one and a half inches an hour, and as the shades of night fell like the shadows of doom over the woe-stricken town, to add to the horror of the situation, the rain poured down in torrents. The rise continued at this rate throughout the entire night. On the morning of the 11th, the sun rose on the turbulent waters sweeping through the streets at the rate of five miles an hour, and still rising. The relief boats and patrol skiffs had been busy all night moving families from houses in which the water was getting to the second floor. The water was now rising one inch an hour, and the suffering and distress were sensibly increased with every inch of advance. In response to an appeal for aid, the Secretary of War telegraphed Mayor E. S. Doolittle to expend \$500 in provisions for actual sufferers, which included at least half the entire population. This, with the timely arrival of the Gallipolis and Logan Relief Committees on the Nora Belle, with an abundant supply of cooked provisions, went far towards alleviating the immediate suffering. The Mayor appointed J. K. Suiter, Jos. Anderson, John Hite, Z. T. Wellington and J. D. Sedinger a relief committee. The committee established itself in Dusenberry's Hall, and distributed supplies in boats. The water reached its maximum height at three o'clock on the morning of the 12th—seven feet and one inch higher than on the same day one year ago. From this point it began to fall, but it was not until the evening of the 17th that it was entirely off the streets. The water was from four to twenty feet deep all over the town, on the first floor of all the houses, and on the second floor of a great many. The view from the hill back of the town was a scene of desolation beyond description. The towns of Proctorville and Guyandotte seemed almost together in the middle of a sheet of water, that extended from hill to hill. The hardy mountaineers of Logan County, who happened to be here with their push boats, rendered great assistance. On the morning of the 14th the U. S. relief boat Katie Stockdale arrived, and left a liberal supply of provisions, blankets, clothing, etc., and was followed by the Claribell, from Gallipolis. As the waters abated, the scene of desolation became more appalling

—houses off of foundations, fences torn up and the streets blockaded with immense piles of drift of every description. The loss of the town cannot be exactly estimated, but is not less than \$20,000. The following is a list of the business men who lost: W. H. Douthit, A. E. Smith, A. Roseberry, L. M. Darling, Julius Frentil, Jno. Scheneberg, Page & Everett, Page & Co., J. L. Caldwell, Wright & Co., Smith & Wellington, Mr. McCormick, J. L. Douthit, John Woodrum, Phipps & Wells, and G. Ritz. Charleston, Gallipolis and Barboursville responded promptly to our appeals for aid, but the ambitious town of Huntington halted between two opinions—whether to pose as a high and dry town, or acknowledge the corn, and call for assistance, and finally decided on the latter course. The money and goods received here amounted to about \$3,000. Business of all kinds is completely prostrated. It will be many months before all the houses are repaired, and fences replaced. The effects of the flood will be felt for years. The memory of it will last for generations, and the ten-year-old lad of to-day, who has the good fortune to live four score years, will be authority, as the oldest inhabitant, tell more impossible stories about the flood of 1884 than Moses told of the freshet in which good old Noah distinguished himself."

The flood at high tide reached Huntington Tuesday,

FEBRUARY 12,

at 7:30 A. M., being sixty-three feet, against fifty-six feet two inches on the same day of 1883, thirteen hours later, making the flood of 1884 six feet ten inches above 1883. The *Huntington Advertiser* says that the high waters of 1832 and 1847 both reached the same notch at that point (fifty-eight feet nine inches), and were just four feet three and a half inches lower than February 12, 1884. It stood three feet six inches deep on Third Avenue, between Ninth and Tenth Streets, and extended eastward on that thoroughfare to a point about half way between Eleventh and Twelfth Streets. From this point to half way between Thirteenth and Fourteenth Streets, this avenue was out of water—the exact point being at the ice-house of J. W. Verlander, next door to H.C. Harvey's residence.

"On Fourth Avenue the water was eighteen inches deep between Eighth Street and Eleventh Street, and something deeper both east and west of these points. All of the cross streets were covered from the river to Fourth Avenue except Twelfth and Thirteenth Streets. At the *Advertiser* office, on Ninth Street, between Third and Fourth Avenues, the water was fourteen inches deep, and stood ten and a half inches deep on the floors of the office. The store rooms on Second Avenue had from five to eight feet of water on their floors, and on Third Avenue they ranged from four feet at Seventh Street, to three and a fourth at Ninth, Tenth and Eleventh Streets. Marshall College was about

ten feet above the flood. The Ensign Car Works had eight feet of water. The old Holderby mansion had two feet on its first floors. At West Huntington, in T. W. Taylor's dwelling, the water lacked six inches of reaching the second floor. J. W. Verlander's fine brick residence had twenty-one inches on the second floor. Three or four small frame dwellings were moved from their foundations, but none were washed away. At St. Cloud, one and one-fourth miles below Huntington, six houses were carried off, one belonging to Mr. Leete, three to Jethro Parsons, and two to McCullough and Couch, of Mason County, West Virginia. A large number of people from the section of the city where the houses were invaded by the water were quartered in the city building and school houses, and rationed; besides, a large number of people who did not leave their flooded houses, were cared for and fed. The total number of people thus fed by the relief committee in this city was 280."

The losses in Huntington for 1883 and 1884, by reason of the flood, must have been large, though no estimate at this time has been made public. She was placed at great inconvenience, however, and 800 people, the Huntington *Commercial* said, had to be fed from the general supply fund for flood sufferers. She saw the "elephant" enough to make her twice happy, it is certain, and we hope it is for the last time.

West Huntington, says the Huntington *News*, was all inundated, there being no houses but that the families had to move out, or upstairs; many of the smaller houses were moved from their foundations, and the larger ones badly damaged.

While the water was yet in the city the house of Charles Peyton, in West Huntington, still standing in the water, was found to be on fire; the fire engine could not get to it on account of the mud, and the house, with all its furniture, which had already been greatly damaged by water, was burned to the water's edge. It is supposed to be the work of an incendiary.

The C. & O. R. R. officials offered free transportation for all provisions and supplies sent along its route to the Ohio River sufferers, and also had several boats built, which were for the free use of any of their employes.

The water was from four to six feet deep in all the stores on Third Avenue, between Eighth and Eleventh Streets, the business portion of Huntington.

As to the depth of water, the *Republican* says: "The water attained a height of six feet seven and three-fourths inches above the rise of last year, which placed the water in the channel of the river at sixty-two feet nine and three-fourths inches."

A great number of snakes were seen during the flood, in the upper end of town, that had been driven by the water to trees. In one instance a large black snake was seen coiled partially about a knob on the door of a dwelling on Third Avenue.

In Rockwood, Ohio, opposite Huntington, several houses were floated from the foundations, and a few carried out in the river. Only two houses on the river front remain in position. Indeed, there was nothing but destruction to see, look whichever way you might along the river—one continued panorama of passing woe to earthly possessions, such as is not witnessed more than once in the life of any man.

Immediately below Huntington lie Burlington, Ceredo, and South Point. Burlington is one of the ancient landmarks of Lawrence County. Her people viewed the flood in security. They saw the whirlwind as it passed, but felt not its touch or breath. The backwater covered the fields behind her to a depth of twelve or fifteen feet in places, and destroyed some fences and hay, but brought no one to want or destitution. Around Charley and Buffalo Creeks, above, a few persons were driven from their homes, but the damage was slight. The site of Burlington must be about on a level with Gallipolis, for it would have taken from seven to eight feet more of water to have damaged her. South Point also has a high location, yet a few in the low lands suffered to some extent, and were driven from their houses. All that we heard of were as follows: William Elkins, John Ricketts, Samuel Kowns, William Johnson, S. K. Chatfield, John Owens, and Robert Hale. The latter moved into the church. J. P. Shipton's first floor, and S. White's grocery, had the dust laid on them, and that was about all. Mr. Davidson's residence was surrounded. The water was over the engine in the South Point Flouring Mill, and the back water formed a large stream between the river and the Baptist Church, sufficient to make it navigable for big steamboats. Many of the farmers lost largely in fences.

Ceredo, W. Va., suffered great damage. The large number of 288 persons had to be furnished with supplies as soon as it was possible to reach them.

Catlettsburg, Ky., was one of the little cities on which the flood bore heavily. Think of a town being under water for twelve long days. It was a fearful experience. Over 1,500 people were driven from their homes, and 500 more lived in the second and third stories of their houses, surrounded by a

sea of water. The water exceeded by six feet ten inches the flood of 1883. The scene here, when the river was at its highest, was one never to be forgotten. Every street submerged, and houses here and there, on every street, turned over on sides and on end, weaving and shaking about, breaking with every wave that jostled them. Many with comfortable and happy homes before the flood, have now nothing but their bare lots to look upon. We take the list of sufferers below from the Ashland (Ky.) *Democrat*. T. D. Marcum, the editor, says in connection, that it is only a partial list, he having been unable to go where the loss was greatest. *More than one hundred thousand dollars* is a frightful levy to be laid on a prosperous little community, and on short notice, too. If it could have fallen upon the Kentucky Legislature it would'nt have been so bad :

Noah Wellman, Mims & Borders, Barton & Wolfe, John M. Porter, Z. C. Vinson, P. S. Marcum, A. J. Baker, J. W. Garrison, Smith, Mitchell & Co.; Joe Ziegler, D. W. Eba, Ree. Vaughn, J. W. Damron, Damron & Honshell, W. J. Williamson, Ratliff & Bowles, S. Bishop, F. M. Wellman, Patton & Bro., W. A. Patton, Pawpaw Printing Co., J. S. Wood, S. P. Hager, John B. Bromley, John B. Wellman, G. W. Andrews, W. A. Anderson & Son, John I. Williamson, C. Runyon, H. W. Covington, C. W. Berger, M. B. Goble, D. H. Carpenter, Mrs. Delila McCoy, Wellman & Prichard, J. A. Wellman, J. L. N. Dickens, R. B. Owens, Presbyterian Church, W. B. Williams & Co., A. Lark, Wm. Bruns, Fred. Bruns, E. R. Sample, Mrs. Margaret Easthan, W. H. Nickles & Son, D. S. Martin & Co., J. C. Gunther, C. & O. Railroad, C. S. Ulem, C. L. McConnell, Herman Krish, Chris. Fisher, J. J. Sturgill, A. M. Crow, G. N. Brown, Thomas R. Brown, E. Mays, Dr. J. D. Kincaid, Chas. Hastings, John E. Burchett, Rev. J. H. Jackson, G. R. McGuire, Wayne Damron, L. Damron & Bro., L. F. Damron, J. G. Patton & Co., Joseph Patton, S. W. Patton, G. J. Dickseid, S. W. Ratliff, S. G. Kinner, Dr. Wm. Ely, Elba Ulen, M. A. Bell, Samuel Galligher, W. W. Montague, Harding Pennington, J. M. Davidson's estate, G. S. McNeil, Hugh B. Wellman, Craft & McClure, R. B. Riggs, Tone Wellman, John H. Eba, T. M. Cecil, Mrs. Kessiah Burns, C. C. Prichard, Ohio River Transportation Company, R. R. Barton, A. H. Goble, G. F. Gallup, Frank Stafford, Flem. Justice, Green Short, W. H. Jackson, John Smith, L. P. Garrett, Mrs. A. L. Lykins, Charles Ely, Dan. Workman, George Layne, Dan. Davenport, William Cantrill, Alex. Short, Frank Mott, Mrs. Smiley, Steve Short, W. H. Henley, John M. Burns, Andy Moore, John Davis, Dave Fields, Nancy Davis, Dave Stanley, John B. Fields, Joe Fields, S. Hite, Noah Foster, E. W. Baker, J. W. Dillon, A. Borders, A. P. Borders, Catlettsburg Pottery Company, Stein & Son, John Meek, J. M. Burns & Son, Joe Newman, Andy Scott, H. L. Boggs, A. E. York, Sol. Williamson, G. M. Whitten. T. H. Baldridge. R. H. Kilgore. Ellen Jones. T. L. Ford. Mrs. Kim-

ball, Mrs. A. F. Morse, Henry Williams, A. J. Booker, Scott Guilkey, Dave Davis, W. L. Kbbie, Wm. Shoemaker, T. Mims, Anelia Fuller, W. J. McNealey, Cas. Wilmore, Mrs. Jane Bartram, Grace Guilkey, Mrs. A. Botts, J. F. Jones, J. M. McGuire, Mrs. J. M. Elliott, Mrs. Lizzie Price, Oliver Hampton, George Cole, P. P. Shauer, Dick Bartram, C. W. Sheritt, T. Craft Dan. Davis, C. Cecil, Sr., Ford & Cecil, Thomas L. Mars, W. H. C. White, George Killen, R. B. McCall, McCall & Cecil, A. H. Clawson, Catlettsburg National Bank, M. E. Church, M. E. Church, South; C. Cecil, Jr., Aaron Owens, A. H. Hogan, William Smiley, David Kinner, L. P. Davenport, Coon Waits, Mrs. H. S. Johnson, W. S. Clark, Cal. Wellman, A. C. Hailey, C. H. Hampton, Masonic Lodge, M. N. Hambleton, J. W. Miles, Kirk Culver, J. N. Hamilton, John Faulkner, Aaron Stead, D. D. Eastham, Mrs. Matilda Rice, Mrs. S. V. Firor, Mrs. Mary Burk, J. C. Merrill, N. P. Andrews & Son, James Sparks, Mrs. Elizabeth Campbell, David Chadwick, Mrs. Klauder, William Troy, Al. Cameron, J. H. Porter, John McSurley, Squire Ross, Mrs. Amanda Rice, Jas. R. Ford, K. F. Prichard, Feuce Davidson, T. D. Marcum, M. F. Hampton, Mrs. Jake Meek, D. B. Vaughan, Contracting and Building Co.

It is estimated that it will take \$10,000 to rebuild the fences, replace the houses, and clean up the streets and alleys, and repair the pavements. Mrs. Eads, an aged lady, died in the court-house on the same day that there was a birth in the court-house. Two daughters of Rev. Mr. Fannin died during the high water. There was nothing but gloom and woe to the entire population for many days, but the people are full of perseverance and enterprise, and are doing the best they can under the circumstances to make glad the waste places and revivify business.

Ashland, the next town of importance below Catlettsburg, fared much better than did the latter. J. M. Huff, Esq., of the *Ashland Republican*, issued from his office a diagram of the streets and avenues of Ashland, showing the high water marks of 1883 and 1884. The flooded district included Front Street, Greenup Avenue, and extended about three-fourths of the way from Greenup Avenue to Winchester Avenue, being forty-eight inches deep in the middle of Front Street, forty-four inches on Greenup Avenue, and thirty-three inches on the alley between Greenup and Winchester Avenues. This was about the average. Greenup Avenue is immediately back of Front Street, and Winchester Avenue immediately back of Greenup, and is eight feet higher than Front Street, so that the two front streets only were flooded for the length of the town, and they only in the first stories. It, however, compelled about seventy-five business firms to move into their second stories, and also thirty-six families. About 200 other

houses were overflowed and compelled to move, so that there were very lively times in the place. There was considerable damage, but nothing that will affect the business interests of the town, though it was seriously threatened. Ashland mainly provided for her own destitute, and even sent much aid to Catlettsburg and Greenup, which was very commendable in her citizens. According to the water marks of Ashland, the water was four inches higher in '32 than in '47, '47 was four inches higher than '83, and '84 five feet four and one-half inches higher than '32. The following were those compelled to move by the flood:

I. W. Norton, Mrs. Hambleton, H. Tinsley, — Oliver, Dave Lloyd, Machine Shop, Spoke Factory, Nath. Balbridge, Saw Mill, Planing Mill, Union Depot, Coal Tipple, G. Reynolds, Coal Tipple, Ashland Fee, O. N. Johnson, R. H. Chattaroi, R. Baumgarten, G. Hambleton, Thomas Bird, Walter Holden, R. Williams, John Durgen, Nath. Booth, E. Goulette, Lot Ridgeway, Sidney Hart, Geo. Morrison, Mrs. Brain, A. H. Burnett, G. McNaughton, John Spicer, Nick Helt, Mrs. C. J. Wilson, John Dever, Geo. Carp, Richard Carey, — Moriarity, A. Starling, Jos. Hunt, John Hopkins, Mrs. Bell, Mrs. Gibbons, John Reed, A. Ferguson, John Biggs, Chas. Morris, Dr. Wilson, John Friend, Wm. Hart, Walter Burk, Geo. Compton, — Maxen, S. Yungkau, Frank Judd, Martin Sourwin, Thos. Bullington, Benj. Dixon, T. J. Langshore, Mrs. Broddess, John Fry, — Manes, J. Weinturtnner, Dennis Sullivan, Jas. Davis, John Bell, Wm. Hulett, Wm. Howell, Newton Jones, Griff Davis, C. C. Chinn, Jas. McDonald, George Sands, John Campbell, John Stump, Wm. Parven, Henry Miller, Charles Long, Kit Poage, Miss Merriman, Thomas Connor, Ed. Comer, W. Harrison, Pat Leehy, Robert Ross, Mrs. Dwyer, Thomas Hardy, N. R. Bulger, J. W. Shaw, Wm. Diederich, Oliver Payne, Thos. Murphy, Lew Beach, John Kobbs, Raison Stamper, Aleck Jamison, Thomas Spicer, Mrs. Halley, J. Messersmith, C. Gerlinger, — Moore, Peter Langshore, — Paden, Jacob Emmons, Postoffice, A. & H. Lampton, Charles Raison, Mrs. O'Brien, Al Mellor, Broadway Hotel, C. P. Gaige, John Brubaker, Meinhart & Co., C. M. Wilson, I. N. Pollock, W. L. Geiger, Hager & Russell, John Zeigler, John Schmidt, R. Baumgarten, John Calder, James Dent, Veyssie & Jones, Jacob Seal, Tom Newman, Jehu Hold, Ben W. Singer, Mrs. Keener, J. C. Herman, E. M. Branstrup, J. G. Fisher, W. A. Lawson, G. Nicholson, W. H. H. Eba, Thos. Howard, John Leisure, Joe Rankins, John Meyers, Daniel McGarvey, John Connors, Joe Lordier, Jas. Bivens, A. M. Thompson, J. Sauvageot, Lon Callihan, Hotel Aldine, Jacob Geyer, Peter Stiles, Mrs. Daniels, A. S. Hunt, Thomas Russell, Peter Moats, Alex. Wilson, Charles Gaver, A. C. & I. Office, Hiram Miller, Capt. Mayo, John Horr, Frank Powers, W. W. Hackworth, Thomas Houghton, P. Barber, Poage's Mill, John Jackson, John Jackman, Arch. Rodgers, Wm. McMullan, Mrs. Lyons, John James, John Henry, Harry Thomas, Henry Schroder, — Lambert, H. Culbertson, G. Donaldson, Thos. Cassidy, M. Stiefvater, Andy Kelly, Wm. Cook, Pat Haney, Joe Ofield,

Geo. McKnight, Mot McKnight, Thos. Lyons, B. Broomfield, J. Hellwig, Wm. Kouns, Mrs. DeRossett, S. Casebolt, John Petre, Al. Skiles, Milt Hern, Alfred Kizee, Margaret Johnson, Wm. Cummings, Frank Long, Geo. Shomers, Robert Fugett, Henry Riley, Jas. Runion, A. J. Crawford, E. C. Roll, Charles Lynch, Mrs. Maynes, Lon Hood, Gus Rodgers, John Henthorn, Miss Smith, John Griesbeck, Mrs. Kane, Thomas Kane, George Bell, George Jones, John Layman, L. Fearing, Sr., J. K. Johnson, Dan Kelly, Mrs. White, Oliver Birch, Morris Conner, Millard Clark, Obe Galligher, Rena Downie, Jacob Bloom, August Schomer, Samuel Wise, Lewis Snider, Mrs. Kilgore, H. H. Braden, T. Northwood, W. H. Bagley, Andy Falls, Arnold Wyatt, Peter Clay, Fred Merriman, P. L. Howell, Frank Ketterer, James Kingery, Mrs. Lynn, W. H. Kouns, John McCleary, S. Davenport, Pat Suddith, Robert Page, Reuben Bolt, Robert Jeffers, Geo. Bornheim, J. C. Maisch, H. A. Nolte, C. F. Bartell, John Wittig, Geiger & Powell, George Geyer, J. C. Miller, W. C. Ireland, George Porter, Geo. Wheatley, F. H. Bruning, P. T. Nagle, Charles Kouns, N. F. Faulkner, Jandes Bros., Harris & Coburn, Andrew Jackson, George Prater, Reuben Downey, Peter Miller, Wm. Jackman, Pat Moriarity, *Republican* Office, Henderson & Lane, Hugh Russell, Daniel Turner, — Jackson — Mason, Peter Crosby, Faulkner Bros., J. R. McBreyer, Mrs. Frazier, Ber Ridgeway, Samuel Frazier, E. B. Waggoner, James Smith, Lewis Fearing, Jr. Chris Lightner, Charles Fedder, Matthew West, John Layne, Mrs. Pyles, David Martin, Mrs. Ray, Henry Rudy, Jack Bailey, Z. T. Miller, Henry Fisher, Fred Myers, Coon Myers, G. W. Bryson, G. Weinfurtner, George Riddle, Charles Cline, Coon Hyman.

They were all put to nearly the same inconvenience as the people in much worse flooded towns, but were spared the sight of seeing all their property swept away as by a prairie fire, as was the case at many places, and even the flooded ones could see dry land on six streets the length of the town, while at many towns there was nothing but miles of water in every direction, and the entire population on the hills or in the uppermost stories, or on the very roofs of their houses.

We next come to

IRONTON, OHIO.

Iron-ton has a population of about 10,000, and is a flourishing business place, largely engaged in making iron and manufacturing. The flood was particularly severe upon her. She had had her hands full for many weeks taking care of the destitute within her borders, who had been idle for want of employment, as, indeed, was the case in all the manufacturing towns and cities along the river, and the flood was like a second calamity. The people, however, of the well-to-do sort are very public spirited, have an exalted opinion of their

town and their capacity to cope with the vicissitudes of this life, let them come in whatever shape they may, and though made to contribute about \$200,000 to the rapacious Ohio River in the way of loss and damage, she has done it with as much grace as could be expected, and has gone to work with a hopeful energy to repair the loss. The water reached its greatest height here, the Ironton *Busy Bee* says, on Tuesday,

FEBRUARY 12,

at 10 A. M., measuring sixty-six feet one inch, against sixty feet last year. The Ironton *Register* of February 14 said :

"The events of the past week have been simply heartrending. Pen cannot describe the sorrowful scenes which this city has witnessed. We thought we had, a year ago, an experience so terrible that, in the nature of things, came but a time or two in a century, but now the calamity returns in proportions that are perfectly appalling. As we write, Monday morning, the waters cover more than half the town of Ironton. All West Ironton is deep in the flood. The entire business portion of the city has been invaded by the deluge, and in every store the waters are from a foot to eight feet deep. From Fourth Street to the river, the entire length of the town is a sheet of yellow water, and at the lower end of town the flood sweeps from the river to the hills. Not only the lowlands back of town are submerged, but the railroad track is covered as far along its way as Dupuy's tannery, while the waters from the river have crept along Railroad Street clear to Fifth.

"On Hecla Street the flood reached to Wesley Chapel; on Buckhorn, to Dr. Moxley's; on Railroad, to Fifth; on Centre, to the Centre House; on Olive, the water line runs beyond Dr. Livesay's house; on Vernon, to Mrs. Raine's house; on Adams, to the middle of Culbertson's lot. Fourth Street is entirely covered, and skiffs ply up and down with perfect freedom."

On Thursday the backwaters from Rachel began to appear on the cross streets, and to submerge the lower end of West Ironton. On Friday, the tide backed up over the culverts and invaded some of the stores. A continuous sheet of water held West Ironton in its cold grasp. The inhabitants of the one-story houses had long ago fled, and all others had taken themselves to the second stories. The court-house, engine houses, and all vacant rooms were filled with the unfortunates that had fled from desolated homes. By Friday night, Rachel reached the farther gutters of Third Street, and began creeping on Hayward's floor. All the store rooms along Centre from Third to Fourth had been abandoned. Mrs. Gunn's millinery store, Slater's drug store, Jake Clark's, H. Pancake's, J. T. McNight, Miss H. Bowen, A. Wieler, were all caught by the advancing wave. Most of the goods were carried to second stories or raised on counters or shelves. At 8 o'clock, Friday night, the tide was within a foot of the mark of 1883. On Saturday, it began to sweep over Second street. It got on the pavements in front of Davey's and Steece's buildings, and came out beyond Second, on Lawrence.

Saturday was a day of great alarm. The flood had gone beyond the 1883 mark and still advancing. The rain added to the sorrowful scene. The water swept up Second Street as far as Lambert's foundry, and on the cross streets below town the waters of Rachel and the river were meeting. In the afternoon, the waves lapped the door sill of the Sheridan House, and on Lawrence a swift current started through the street. The water began creeping into Keer's and Murdock's stores in Union Block. The flood had reached the door sills of nearly all the stores on the west side of Second Street. The only cross street passable was Railroad street, and the waters had reached the track in the afternoon. That little narrow strip was jammed with people all day. The Second Street pavements were crowded with people. The military was out, ostensibly for the protection of property, and yet no vandalism seemed imminent. Under the supervision of a large number of ladies, a soup house had been started at the Davey building, and many of the hungry went there and got a nice dish of soup, a piece of bread and cup of coffee. But by night the water had about closed all access in front, and the only way of getting it was by raised planks. By dark, only the T rail of the railroad across Rachel was visible, and over that narrow passage the crowd slowly wormed its way. The boats were plying along Third Street everywhere. The stores of Hayward, Bickmore, Lewis, Henry, Peters & Ehrlich had water from one to two feet on the floors. Approach to the Post-office was cut off, and by dark the water was half a foot deep there. Otten & Norton's drug store showed a foot of water on the floor, and Alderman's, opposite, was equally unfortunate.

And still the waters kept on advancing at the rate of an inch an hour, and Saturday night the people went to bed discouraged and dismayed. By

SUNDAY

the scene was desolate indeed. All the previous night the flood kept gaining, and sent the waters up at least a foot. This covered the floor of every business house in town except the First National Bank. We took a skiff and rowed through town—down Adams to Second, down Second to Railroad, out Railroad to Third, down Third to Buckhorn, out Buckhorn to Fourth, down Fourth to Hecla, and out Hecla nearly to Fifth, then back, and up Fourth to Railroad, in Railroad to Third, up Third to Centre, out Centre to Fourth, up Fourth to Adams. We describe this route simply to give to the oldest inhabitant of the future a little support if he finds any one to doubt his word. And this was Sunday morning, with the waters still coming up.

The people on the west side of Fourth had abandoned their homes or were still hanging on the second stories, hoping and praying that the waters would soon recede. Some were hoping, from the slender basis of the last inch, that the waters would not come up to rout them. Others who had piled their goods high in the first story were watching with hopeless eyes the encroaching waters, or were struggling in the yellow flood to get their goods higher up. The stores along Centre were an appalling sight; counters were upturned or floating, and goods drifted about on the surface. One could see everywhere, how weak were all human calculations compared to the awfulness of the flood.

Sunday afternoon, the waters rose to the show windows on Second Street. Many of the merchants had been contented to place their goods on the counters and now they were at work putting them up higher. Faith in the flood ever stopping began to be seriously fractured. The waters got into the Ironton House and drove the boarders to the second story. The Second National Bank was two feet deep in water, Sunday afternoon. A swift current reached from the river out Railroad. Front Street was hard to row up. Sunday night, at seven o'clock, we got in a skiff in front of R. Mather's residence and rode through the streets; passing around in front of the Sheridan and Ironton Houses, and then up Second and Third to the rear of L. T. Dean's, where we landed in the alley. The water was not then in Mr. Dean's house, but was within a few inches of it.

It was raining at nine o'clock Sunday night, and the water still making its usual progress. In fact, it seemed to be advancing more rapidly after dark. Reports came that Sandy was running out heavily. Anyhow, the waters kept coming up all Sunday night, and on

MONDAY

the tide had gained a foot, and was still going up slowly. The bad weather kept up. Still hard at it worked the merchants and housekeepers in the inundated districts. The channel on Second Street was five feet deep in many places. A big store boat had been brought around and was moved between Enterprise and Steece's blocks, helping remove some of the store goods.

All day Monday boat building went on. At every cross street where the waters ebbed, was a miniature boat yard. Every little while the word went forth that the waters were at a stand still or raising slowly, but the counter reports were as numerous and decided. The merchants began to distrust high shelves and upper stories even, and many goods were sent ashore, but all more or less damaged.

The crossing of Railroad and Fifth was a favorite landing place. Crowds of people gathered there and at other crossings where the boats were constantly landing with goods or refugees from the flood. Some of the awning roofs on Centre Street were under water on Monday. In the afternoon, the waters strike the sill of the front door of the First National Bank. The tips of the iron fence in front stick out about four inches above the water. As we write, we observe a skiff has stuck on the post of the hitching rail in front of the bank, and is struggling to get off. The waters are within a couple of inches of the lower window sills in the freight office of the Iron Railroad.

Sunday night, Gooch & McQuigg were putting their goods on the high shelves, but to-day (Monday) they are boating many of them ashore. Kaufman is taking some of his goods in the second story of Ward's building. Steece, both Neckamps, Weil, Mittendorf, Aaron Winters, Butterfield, Davidson and Murdock are working hard, boosting their goods into second stories, and still, as one goes by the business houses, he can see within vast quantities of property going to ruin. The water works gave up the ghost Saturday night, and this added to the calamity of the situation, for the idea of drinking

the water that swept over Rachel and through the gutters of Ironton was too repulsive to even think of.

Monday afternoon, we took a voyage down Second Street to the Belfont mill. Thos. Griffith's brick building on Second Street, below Buckhorn, caved in under the force of the water. The lower wall is left standing, but the entire roof, floors and middle walls tumbled right in. The wreck is a desolate one. No one was hurt, for at the time all had fled from the house.

At Belfont, hundreds of cords of keg timber were floating about. The water is five feet deep in all the mills. This catches immense quantities of iron and nails. The Belfont Company had transferred their nails from the warehouse to the platforms in the factory, on which the machines rest, but the waters have got there, and ruined a great many nails. Lawrence and Iron & Steel Companies are similarly situated.

The river is nearly to the tops of the doors at the gas-works and hoe factory. It covers the new Storms Creek bridge, except the tops of the railing. The havoc in West Ironton is indescribable. As we rode through, strong currents from the river were rushing out the streets. Hugh Mahaffy's house, with all there was in it, had floated off. Many people were still holding the fort in the second stories of their houses, but they seemed terribly anxious about the rising water, for up it was still going. The top of a gas-post was here and there visible.

From West Ironton we went straight across to Fifth Street, or the "Green," and then back to Fourth, down which the current was very swift. The water on Hecla was just meeting the water on Fifth, and on Buckhorn it had caught Dr. Moxley's residence, and was creeping to Fifth Street there. The market space was entirely covered, and on Railroad, the waters extended beyond Fifth, so that Fifth Street was not passable. Through the gutters on the side of the Railroad, the waters from the river and from the backwater of Storms Creek mingled. Back of town, the water had enveloped everything, and was within five or six feet of the Children's Home. The road to the Cory tunnel was, however, high and dry.

The waters sweep up Fourth Street toward the Mission Church, and all in between that and the river is covered by water. The flood nearly reaches the ceiling of Bester's store. I. A. Kelly flees from his residence, near the Kelly Nail Mill, which the waters have begun to invade. Belfont furnace is in the waves but not damaged. Most of East Ironton has followed the example of their unfortunate neighbors in the west end, and fled to the heights back of Fourth Street. The school houses have been opened to the sufferers, and dim lights flicker from those buildings, the engine houses and other public places, as the reporter walks about at midnight. The town is very quiet at night. The silence is weird and solemn. An occasional militiaman is met, quietly walking his beat. Here and there a boat slowly creeps across the waters. At the shore, on any of the cross streets, two or three persons linger and quietly talk of the prospect. We ask if the river is still coming up, and the response is invariably "yes." The moon shines dull in the mists; and in the quiet the people are trying to catch a few hours of rest from the terrible anxieties and labors of the day.

TUESDAY.

It raised six inches last night, and is still advancing slowly. The waters have met at Fifth and Buckhorn, opposite H. Campbell's. They have driven D. Nixon from his house on Lawrence, and have got beyond the Centre Street steps of the Court House Square. Looking down on Centre, we see the tide has reached the top of the doors in Slater's drug store, and is half way up the front door of Dr. Morris' residence. The portion of the town which is now out of the water is from a line running between Fourth and Fifth, beginning about Washington Street, and thence straight across to the intersection of Fifth and Buckhorn, down Fifth to Etna, out Etna to Eighth, and then around on the high banks of Storms toward Dupuy's tannery, and along to the east of Eighth Street, up into the Kelly addition; and still as we write this territory is being encroached upon. The sun is shining to-day, and the watery avenues of Ironton are lively with flying craft. The moving is about all done, except in stray cases. Many people are voyaging around to see the universal havoc. Notwithstanding the ruin everywhere, those who have been visited severely are ready to look upon the ways of Providence with serene contemplation, while many others are throwing jokes above their own dark misfortunes. The shore line above town starts between the Railroad Round House and Etna Furnace; thence north-east, through Willard's orchard, below Thos. Kemp's, and below Bud McDaniels; thence between the Holt residence and H. Dettmar, and over toward Mrs. Miller's green house, but missing that. All below this line is in the water. Kelly's mill is surrounded and the water is about an inch within the packing floor. The platform where the nail machines are located is crowded with refugees from the flood. The water is not in the mill, but fills the fly wheel pit. The Belfont lime piles are utilized by the skiffmakers. The water is away up in W. D. Kelly's front yard.

It is impossible to give many names. It would take columns to describe the individual misfortunes. All the houses in the district which we have described are more or less in the water. We should say that two-thirds of the houses in town have from one to ten feet on the floor. The personal losses will be inestimable. Many abandoned their houses last Saturday with the idea that the flood could not raise much more, but found next morning their goods floating through the houses. There are hundreds of instances of this kind. But the serious damage, after all, will be to the merchants' stocks and the houses themselves. The havoc to the wall paper and plaster is tremendous. Fences have popped up all over town. The course of Rachel Creek is a tumbled up mass of stables and out-buildings. Gutter crossings have floated everywhere.

To-day (Tuesday) the sun is out, and the air is warm and genial. There is noise on the waters. We should reckon a thousand boats are plying the streets of Ironton. Collisions are numerous, and loud laughter and oft-repeated jokes burden the air. Ladies are out in jo-boats and skiffs to see the waste of waters, and their cruel desolation. There is often a shade of merriment to all things sad.

We ascended the Presbyterian spire last Sunday, to view the flood. From

that point, it could best be seen in Ironton and the region between Sarah furnace and the Rock, though the hill tops, perhaps, afforded a better view for a wider range. It was a dreadful scene. Two-thirds of the expanse before us seemed under water—West Ironton, the Storms Creek Valley, the region of the old fair grounds, the lowlands back of town on either side of the I. R. R. track and up the Tenth Street valley as far as the Kelly Building Association lots, beside the immense territory washed by the River itself from between Fourth and Fifth Streets, to the Kentucky shore. Russell was a peninsula, tapering from a point opposite the saw-mills to the bend above the Rock. At our feet crowds of people walked the streets and gazed with wonderment at the edge of the flood. Boats and rafts floated everywhere. People in the submerged districts looked out from their porch roofs and balconies with a weary attitude and a disconsolate look, which the imagination could see. Teams struggled to navigate Railroad Street, and an occasional horse and buggy went along Second and Third with the driver's feet elevated to keep out of the wet. These were the higher portions of ground, and along the cross streets the water marked its depth high up on the first stories, and touched the eaves of very many houses on still lower lands.

The Ironton *Bee* of the 12th said :

We took soundings at quite a number of points in this city, and found the following depths of water: Two squares below the bridge, on Second Street, W. I., ten feet; on the new Storms Creek bridge, supposed to be above high water mark, there was six feet four inches; on the corner of Second and Vesuvius, the approach to the bridge, ten feet; on the drag-out bed of Belfont Mills, nine feet; opposite door of Belfont office, six feet six inches; corner Hecla and Second Streets, six feet three inches; Etna and Second, five feet six inches; Etna and Third, nine feet; Etna over Rachel, twelve feet; Etna and Fourth, seven feet six inches; Fourth and Hecla, eight feet; Fourth and Mill, thirteen feet; Fourth and Vesuvius, eight feet; Fourth and Buckhorn, eight feet; Fourth and Lawrence, eight feet six inches; Chronacher's corner, on pavement, six feet six inches; Fourth and Railroad, five feet six inches; Fourth and Center, seven feet six inches; Fourth and Olive, eight feet six inches. The water was more than half way from the gate to the court-house steps; Fourth and Vernon, seven feet six inches; E. H. Jones' stable, eleven feet; Third and Vernon, eight feet; Third and Olive, Mayor's office, seven feet nine inches; Third and Center, eight feet; Second and Center, six feet; Third Street in front of Post office, seven feet; Third and Railroad, six feet; Second and Railroad, five feet four inches; foot of *Bee* office stairs, five feet; Second and Buckhorn, six feet eight inches; Second and Lawrence, six feet six inches; Third and Buckhorn, seven feet four inches; Lawrence and Second, seven feet two inches; Railroad Street, over Rachel, six feet eight inches. These measurements are as accurate as could be secured, and will be found just about the correct depth at the various crossings mentioned, at ten o'clock this morning.

The *Irontonian* of the 16th said :

The City Council met Wednesday evening in the County Clerk's office, at the court-house, and appointed the Mayor, Township Trustees and City Engineer J. R. C. Brown as an Executive Relief Committee, to receive and distribute supplies to destitute sufferers. Owing to the Township Trustees being engaged at the soup-house at Dupuy's tannery, and the death of Mayor Corn's son, which occurred Thursday afternoon, another meeting of the City Council was held, in the Sheriff's office, at the court-house, Thursday evening, and the following named gentlemen were added to the Relief Committee: J. F. Rodarmor, H. B. Wilson, H. S. Neal, Ralph Leete, John Campbell, E. Bixby, Geo. N. Gray and E. Nigh. The Relief Committee met and organized by electing J. F. Rodarmor, Chairman; J. R. C. Brown, Secretary; F. C. Tomlinson, Assistant Secretary, and H. B. Wilson, Treasurer. The committee then appointed the following sub-committees, upon whose orders relief is furnished: First Ward—Peter Rogers, Jas. Kinney, Col. J. Weddle. Second Ward—S. B. Steece, Henry J. Brady and T. J. Hayes. Third Ward—Geo. Lampman, Rev. J. F. Bric and F. A. Dupuy. Fourth Ward—Levi Henry, John Culkins and T. R. Butler. Fifth Ward—D. C. McConn, T. R. Hall and J. C. Evans. Upper Township—John A. Jones, M. J. Cullen, Jno. Wro, Sol Wood and John Morgan. The Relief Committee appointed Col. E. Nigh, Chief Commissary, and W. S. Kirker and Charles T. McKnight, Assistants, to take charge of the stores and supplies, and see that they are properly distributed. Thursday, the soup-house at Dupuy's distributed 1,746 rations. Friday forenoon, the Relief Committee, with headquarters in the Sheriff's office, distributed 1,000 bushels of coal, which they purchased from the Kelly Nail & Iron Co.

The *Irontonian* of the 23d of February said:

But for the great heart of the people whose voluntary tribute poured in from Jackson, Coalton, Oak Hill, Winchester, Berlin, Chillicothe, Fayette Court House, Lebanon, Dayton, Springfield, Bellefontaine, Cleveland, Xenia, and though last, not least, Columbus, many of our people would have perished from hunger and cold. The people of Ironton and this county should always remember, and never forget the untiring zeal and efficient aid procured through the efforts of E. McMillen and Chief Justice Johnson.

The *Busy Bee* of February 19 said:

Never did we appreciate the true nobility of the American people as now. Their's is a character which shines brightest when the darkest hours have come. A week ago the people of the Ohio Valley were in the midst of calamity and desolation. Our own city was but a sample of hundreds. The relentless flood had driven thousands from their comfortable homes. Women and children, in the pitiless rain, were crying on our streets for shelter and food. Our local relief committees, backed by the big hearts of generous citizens, were energetically providing all possible relief. But such supplies as had not been destroyed would soon be exhausted. It was a dark and terrible outlook. The

stoutest hearted looked upon the still encroaching flood with feelings of despair. Yet, trusting in God, the good work of relief went manfully on. We could get no word from the outside world. Would the rising waters, already far beyond any former height, ever be satisfied? At last they began to go back, and their slow departure only made more apparent the sad wreck they had wrought. Many a poor man sought his little home to find that the fierce current had swept away the last vestige of his habitation. The hard earnings of a frugal life were gone forever. The last week has been a sad and dreary one. It has planted on many a brow the wrinkles of care, which time cannot efface. But the first beam of sunlight breaking in from the world brings the glad tidings, that the people of the Ohio Valley are not forgotten.

The story of Hanging Rock, just below Iron-ton, is but a repetition of the sad tale told of Iron-ton, except on a lesser scale. A large number of houses have been moved from their foundations. The long, brick row, facing the river at Hanging Rock, fell with a terrible crash. There were thirty persons in the house at the time, but none were injured. The front of the house fell outward, and the inmates rushed to the rear and escaped by boats before the balance of the structure fell. This building contained the office of Means, Kyle & Co., telephone exchange, a ware-house, J. B. McKee's two stores, and a carpenter shop, on the first floor, while the second was occupied by residences.

The following correspondence from that place to the Iron-ton *Bee* describes the situation:

The ruin to this town cannot be fully described, and will have to be seen to be realized. The flood of last year and the damage done was nothing in comparison to that inflicted on us this time. Taking everything into consideration, we got along pretty well, when we remember that but three houses were above water, and they entirely surrounded. Through the untiring efforts of Means, Kyle & Co. and other good people, the houseless ones were well fed, and no one was allowed to suffer for food. Some of the refugees are moving back into their homes, and a gleam of hope and sunshine comes back to us.

The little town of Greenup, Ky., saw the highest wave of the flood on the 12th. At 3 o'clock, that afternoon, it began falling. The town was altogether submerged and the suffering was very great. Some fled to Grayson and other points, some camped on the hills, without food or sufficient clothing, and a more distressing time could not well be imagined. At Riverton, the terminus of the Eastern Kentucky Railroad, the water was into the general offices, as well as the fine residence of the General Manager, a few rods below. Several small buildings floated off their foundations, the lower portion

of the town bearing pretty ugly scars. The Little Sandy bridge lost three spans.

At Haverhill, Ohio, it was much the same. The merchants were all caught with their goods too low, and after the flood they were to be seen hanging in every direction, drying out. Between these little places, on both sides of the river, the farmers lost much more than did the villages, and many had a difficult task to save their stock and grain, and many did not succeed in doing so, and it will require years for them to get back to where they were before the flood.

We are indebted to a much esteemed friend, a resident of Portsmouth, and an eye-witness of the flood at that point, for the following account of

THE FLOOD IN SCIOTO COUNTY.

To look back over the wreck and ruin inflicted by the ravages of the swollen waters of the Ohio and Scioto Rivers in this county, and compare the condition of affairs as they exist with that of the 1st of February, 1884, is not a pleasing task. The crops in the fertile valleys of the two rivers had been bountiful. Sun and showers, and a fructifying season had filled the granaries, and hay stacks were thick in the meadows. The patient farmer had happily turned the glebe in autumn, and the wheat was green-growing, and gave promise of a more lusty growth and a fruitful harvest. His horses, cattle, and hogs were thrifty, and while in the manufacturing, industrial, and commercial world the closing year had fallen short of the hopes and wishes, the farmer looked forward to that healthful reaction which his bounteous crops unerringly indicated must follow.

The angry waters from their mountain feeders, growing in volume from the many tributaries on either side, overleaped the banks and swept away the air castles, and well-grounded hope gave way to the desolation of a great despair. Fences were carried off, and yet the waters crept up, and the massive hay stacks and the golden shocks of fodder were swept away by the resistless tide. Cattle, panic-stricken, stood belly deep in the flood, and lowed piteously, until the waves swept over them, and yet the waters reached up to the farm house and drove the occupants to the higher ground, helpless, thinly clad, and hungry, with the waters behind them unbridled in the work of destruction.

For sixteen miles up the Scioto Valley, the Ohio River spread over the lowlands, as far back as the Scioto Inn, a historic old landmark, dividing the line of Pike and Scioto counties, the stopping place of the early pioneer, in the brave old days of primitive life, simplicity and genuine hospitality, taking wreck and ruin as it advanced.

In the village of Sciotoville, six miles above Portsmouth, the center of the fire-brick industries of the county, with its population of three to five hundred, was almost completely submerged, and many of its handsome cottages overturned or removed from their foundations, while the suffering appealed to the charity of strangers for immediate relief.

The village of Buena Vista, thirty miles west of us, the seat of the celebrated freestone quarries of this section, with its enumeration of four hundred souls, fared still worse, many of its houses being swept away by the current. This village was cut off from telegraphic communication for nearly a week, and hunger and destitution added to the perils of the flood.

All down the Ohio Valley, below Portsmouth, for thirty miles, the currents of the Ohio and Scioto Rivers, both of which had attained the greatest height

known to their history, swept stock, fencing, barns and houses away, like feathers in a lusty gale, and at all hours of the night there was fleeing from water-invaded houses in frail barks, the rush of the angry torrent being heard above the cries of frightened children, and the prayers of anguished mothers for the safety of their loved ones. It would be impossible to exaggerate the suffering which this wild waste of waters painted with a master hand of terror upon the memory of those who survived such scenes and incidents as have daily come to the knowledge of the writer since the subsidence of the flood. The pencil of a Guido could not put the cruel life of agony onto canvas, suffered by many who fled from their homes for their lives, not daring to look back upon the ravages which were being left behind.

Hundreds who never knew what it was to eat the bread of charity, and would have shrunk from being pensioners upon the bounty of others, huddled together in deserted cabins on the hillsides, grateful for food to sustain themselves, while the waters covered their possessions below them, and thanked God that the great heart of humanity could sympathize and feed them in this hour of their desolation and enforced destitution.

Coming to Portsmouth the picture is even more desolate and piteous. True, the farmer lost his growing crop, much stock, and many of the products of his farm, but the land was left, and in the economy of nature he has but to till the soil, and, like Job of old, his possessions will come back to him. But it is different in the city.

We had suffered greatly by the flood of 1883, but we had the inherent strength to care for our distressed, and with a just local pride declined the many offers of our more fortunate neighbors, who were willing to share with us the burden of feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and restoring the residences removed by the flood of that period. We did all this, and asked no outside aid.

Following swiftly upon this unavoidable visitation came the financial reverses of 1883 in the furnace region, of which Portsmouth is the well conceded center. So heavy were the failures in the furnaces outlying, which largely drew their supplies from the manufactories and business houses of this city, that it was a serious shock in our commercial and monetary circles, not less than from a quarter of a million to half a million of dollars being tied up by the failures, besides the falling off in the trade and traffic of the city by their suspension thereafter. To this add the lethargy in the iron market, and the stoppage of projected railroad building consequent upon the general dullness of the country, the blowing out of the upper rolling mill, and other local disturbances in manufacturing circles, and we can see how ill prepared our people were for the greatest flood of the century.

For one week the waters gradually rose higher and higher, until one-story houses were either hidden from sight or swept away. Those who took refuge in second story buildings cried out at midnight for boats to take them from their rooms fast filling with the alien waters.

The wrathful Scioto raised even higher than the Ohio, and our avenues running north and south were many feet deep in water, with a current that could not be stayed, and when the Scioto began to recede, the current changed, and the Ohio rushed north as resistless as the current of the Scioto had flowed south. Meantime houses were being swept away like stubble, or piled one upon another in one mass of ruin.

Years of patient labor and hopeful resolve, which had combined to build and decorate, and furnish, and beautify happy homes, was as it had not been. Men built boats on the house tops, from floating timber, hoping to save clothing or bedding from the flood.

The school-houses, engine-houses, churches, court-house and public halls, were crowded with the men and women of wealth, of moderate means, and of poverty. But the rising waters pitilessly climbed, inch by inch, until the engine-houses were abandoned, and the second floors of the public buildings were the

only protection from the flood. Many moved their furniture and themselves the third and fourth time, and finally had to abandon their property to save themselves.

Those who lived in palaces took their cows on the high porches, to save their lives. Great barges were anchored in deep water at the corner of Second and Chillicothe Streets, the second highest ground in the city, on which horses and cows were confined, and the frightened neighing of the former and the pitiful lowing of the latter sounded weird-like and frightful through all the long hours of the fateful and eventful nights of anxiety and suffering.

For nearly one week we were shut out from all communication with the outside world, both by mail and telegraph, and on Sunday morning, February 10, a disastrous conflagration swept away the telephone exchange, denying us even close communication among ourselves. Previous to this it had been a most valued adjunct in the work of relieving the suffering and hungry. One instance of the day previous I recall: Some four or five families had taken refuge in some of the empty cars on the Scioto Valley Railroad, on higher ground, and Friday night they were surrounded by water, and not until now could they communicate with the relief committee. The writer received a telephone message that they were without food, and had been for twenty-four hours, and the committees were promptly notified, and their wants were relieved. When the telephone exchange was destroyed we were even in a worse condition. We only knew the waters were rising, but what was coming we did not know, or if relief would come was problematical. Fortunately our condition was telegraphed from Lucasville, a village ten miles north, and soon relief began to pour in. Telegraphic communications were received at Sciotoville, six miles east, and brought to us by boat, and on Monday P. J. Weber came down from Gallipolis with the gratifying intelligence that the waters were receding above; but all day Monday, and Monday night, and until Tuesday night of the 12th of February, the river raised until it had reached sixty-six feet three inches, or four feet seven inches higher than the flood of 1832, when it began to slowly recede, and as I write, on the night of the 23d, it is out of the city, but still covers the Scioto bottoms, and has covered them for three weeks.

In conclusion, for I have exceeded the space tendered me, we fed nearly ten thousand homeless people here, besides succoring the villages of Sciotoville, Bucna Vista, and Springville, and the rural population in the Ohio Valley above and below us, and are now feeding nearly four thousand souls.

Fully five hundred homes have been swept away or removed from their foundations. Our schools have not yet resumed. Our merchants, manufacturers and farmers have lost heavily, and the loss in Scioto county will reach not less than \$1,250,000.

But one business house was out of water, Fisher's drug store, corner Sixth and Chillicothe Streets, and the waves washed the iron plate of the door. There was less than half an acre of the city out of water, and only fifty-eight houses that were not inundated.

Without further substantial financial relief it will be impossible to replace the homes of the homeless.

Several have died from exposure incident to the flood, and taking it all in all, it will be years before we recover our lost ground. With hearts grateful to those who came to our relief with food, clothing, blankets, tents, and money, I must close.

At Vanceburg, Ky., the water broke over the banks as early as on Thursday, February 7th. By the Sunday following the town was inundated. Here, as elsewhere, the river had risen in such a steady, stealthy manner as to cause no alarm, and not until the full force of the advancing flood

was upon the town did it realize the fact. Each day, all thought, would certainly see the highest point reached, and often, very curiously, the mighty flood would pause and only gain the fraction of an inch in an hour, when it seemed to gather strength and would rush up the next hour nearly three inches. This was the case all along the river for over 200 miles, and yet it was actually rising for this whole distance at one and the same moment of time—a very remarkable circumstance—though characteristic of both of the floods of historical note—that of December 17th, 1847, sixty-three feet seven inches, and February 18th, 1832, when it reached sixty-four feet three inches (at Cincinnati). When the citizens fully realized the great calamity that was upon them, hours had to be spent in bustle and confusion in looking up and preparing boats or other conveyance for their worldly effects, and very many could do nothing but gaze, almost transfixed, at a wide and wasteful expanse of waters swallowing up everything almost between hill and hill. The demand for conveyances, of course, at such a time exceeded the supply, and those without ready money and plenty of it were almost helpless. Not until Wednesday following, February 13th, did the river reach its highest point. It was then literally from hill to hill, the celebrated Alum Rock, near Vanceburg, rising majestically grand above the water. Hundreds of people visited it, and were amply repaid by the grand sight there afforded. One of the sorest trials and inconveniences arising from the flood and not heretofore mentioned was the impossibility of obtaining a drink of palatable water. All wells and cisterns were flooded with the muddy, murky, sandy stream, and it was terrible stuff to be compelled to use for any purpose. The Vanceburg *Courier* states that the maximum reached here was four and one-half feet above all previous marks. There was not a family in the place but what lost, and though not large in the majority of cases, yet, footed up, amounting to not less than \$50,000, and scarce a farm along the river escaped a levy of less than \$150, running from that to \$1,000 and even more. By the prompt and energetic action of the leading citizens of Vanceburg, her citizens were saved from the extremest want, but it was only through their efforts that it was done. When every town and village, nearly, along the river were appealing for aid, it required the exercise of the best business faculties to obtain supplies from outside sources, but it was accomplished, and the good people of Vanceburg are happy it was no worse with them than it was.

At Wrightsville the losses were very heavy for a small place, and the inhabitants had to go through with their trials without that assistance that came from organized charity societies that larger places immediately set on foot. The principal losers were as follows: Wade & Naylor, John O'Neil, H. A. Keets, John White, Dr. Graham, S. B. Shumate, Captain Wm. Wade, Mary A. Crawford, Samuel Pence, James Burnett, John Malone, Benj. Leek, Samuel Preston, Mrs. E. Baldwin, Newton Baldwin and John Leonard—all amounting to many thousands of dollars, and in some cases the last dollar swept away.

Maysville, Ky., is another one of those points on the Ohio River where the equilibrium of the citizen is not ordinarily disturbed, but as early as the 9th it had reached the high-water mark of '83, and at dusk that evening was only wanting about three inches of being as high as in 1832. Ton after ton of iron had been hauled and placed on the Limestone bridge, to keep it in place. Every cellar on Second Street was full of water, and at the foot of Wall Street the water was several feet deep; on Second Street passengers were being rowed across in skiffs. Cox & Poynter's plow factory had suspended, also James H. Hail & Son's plow factory, Ball & Mitchell's foundry, and others; the gas-works had suspended, and many families in East Maysville had been compelled to move from their residences, abandoning all they possessed to the mercy of the waters. In Chester, a suburb of Maysville, more than a hundred houses were surrounded with water. By the 11th the entire river front, from a mile below Maysville to three miles above, was under water. It was over the Adams & Pangs and Thomas distilleries, below the city, and into their bonded warehouses. It covered all the market gardens below, and was into all the houses, and into the second stories of some. It was in the fine residence of Chas. B. Pearce, in the cotton mill of January & Woods; it covered the large warehouses at the foot of Wall Street, and some of the residences between Wall and Sutton Streets. Two hotels, the Hill House and the Central Hotel, both closed on account of water being on their floors. Every manufacturing establishment in the place was closed, and business suspended. The Fifth Ward, above Limestone, was two-thirds under water. Chester, above spoken of, was by this time overflowed and the people driven from their residences. Several families took refuge in the school-house, and were twenty-four hours

without food before their condition became known. The water-pipes were flooded, and the gas was turned off. The water was all over the Fair Grounds, from four to twelve feet deep. The military were called out to protect property and life. Fully 1,000 people were homeless. Bear it in mind that this was at one of the very highest points on the river. The public schools were all closed and the buildings taken for refuge for the unfortunate sufferers. Some of the manufacturing establishments sustained a total loss of machinery. Pearce Brothers, millers, had a large amount of bran, shorts and fine flour under water.

At Aberdeen, Brown County, Ohio, opposite Maysville, the losses were proportionately as large, if not larger than at Maysville. The flood left the little place, where so many have been united in happy marriage, desolate indeed. It will require much more means than she can command to put her on her feet again. Aberdeen, like most small places, had no facilities for communicating her sufferings to an outside world, and her damage was much greater than was generally known. The following are the principal losers, but not all: Mrs. D. Power, P. N. Bradford, Mrs. Oscar Bricker, Mrs. Frank Miller, Oscar Bricker, Wm. Power, Captain Ellis, Geo. Schlitz, Mrs. Payne, Mrs. Mary Hudwitt, Captain Linton, Mrs. G. H. Wheeler, James Praim, Captain John Small, John Archdeacon, Shelby Campbell, John O'Haran, A. Sorries, Martin Hanley, Mrs. Sarah Davidson, L. Ruggles, Lem Tollie, Mrs. Mary Wisenall, John Campbell, A. B. Power, Ben. G. Ridgeway, C. A. Gates & Co., C. A. Gates, Bradford & Morman, Dr. Guthrie, Dr. Maloy, Dr. Heaton, Captain Drennan, Miss Cotton, True & Son, and others. Every stable in the place is gone. Out of a population of 800, 685 were driven from their homes.

The Methodist Church was the lodging house for sixty families; was the headquarters of the Relief Committee, and packed to the ceiling with household goods besides. Here, of course, the cry for bread and help went up, and was gloriously responded to, for which the heartfelt gratitude of the sufferers could only be expressed in the silent tears that trickled down their faces. It is to be truly hoped that the little town may never again witness such a direful calamity, and that she may soon recover from her misfortunes and be able to look upon the great flood of 1884 as a dream, hardly to be remembered except for the good deeds enacted in that time.

We now come to Ripley, a well known little business town. The destruction here, according to wealth and population, is as great perhaps as at any town in the Ohio Valley. The water reached the height of last year's flood on the evening of the 9th. At that time the situation was little short of appalling. Two-thirds of the town was under water, and in the bottoms scores of two-story houses were entirely submerged. All the business houses were in water, and business was entirely suspended. Three hundred families had been driven from their homes, all communication with other places was cut off, and great suffering was staring the people in the face. A tour at this time through the flooded town presented a scene of destruction and woe that was pitiable to look upon. It was a long and dreary time that the inhabitants watched from their upper windows the rising of the turbulent waters. Many houses that stood the invasion of last year were now swept away. On the evening of the 10th the river was twenty-two inches higher than in '83, and eleven inches higher than in 1832. The loss in the bottoms in the vicinity could only be counted in thousands. Crops of tobacco hanging in barns were entirely submerged; fodder, hay, fences and the usual accompaniments of the flood were carried off. On the 12th the water had gained five feet four inches over last year, and was still advancing, and the situation growing more desperate with each hour. By actual count twenty-six houses were carried off since the evening before, and the loss, even if it should go no farther, was double that of the year before. Six of the largest bridges in the county were swept away, adding greatly to the burden of taxes necessary for their replacement. The water finally reached the enormous height of almost seventy-two feet, or five feet six and a half inches above 1832. On the night of the 12th a heavy wind storm arose and dashed the waves about the buildings with great force, causing many to succumb that might otherwise have stood. Forty-two buildings went down in the storm, or were forced from their foundations. It looked as though nothing was to be left of the place. A bridge, costing \$30,000, above Ripley, was brushed away as though but a worthless piece of drift. Two bridges on Straight Creek were also carried off. At Logan's Gap, two miles from Ripley, a large tobacco factory belonging to Marion Stephenson was completely wrecked, and left at the mouth of Eagle Creek; six other buildings here were also destroyed. The creeks of the county were all swollen to their utmost

capacity, and in many cases were rendered impassible, by being obstructed with wrecked houses, and the drift of fences, logs, water gaps, and other debris. A local relief committee was organized, and a number of post supply boats established, but it was found that they had but little to distribute, owing to the wide-spread destruction that had taken place, and messengers with appeals to help from starvation were sent to neighboring towns, and promptly responded to, but as in hundreds of other cases, if outside help had not been promptly rendered, the direst suffering would have followed. And as if the waters could not satisfy the demon of destruction, and while she was yet lying prostrate and almost helpless, a fire broke out, and added \$10,000 more of loss and wreck. Truly the scenes of hardship endured by the good people of the Ohio Valley, in February, 1884, will be remembered while life shall last. The following are among the heavy losers, taken by a correspondent who, in a skiff, passed directly over the roofs of many two-story houses: Geo. Bartley, W. D. Young, Doc Pickerell, Gilbert Crosby, Wm. Reinert, Henry Campbell, Jordan Brown, John Culter, Latonia House, G. F. Young, Samuel F. Kelly, A. M. Dale, Maria Brooks, Mrs. Loe. There are scores of others, but many could give no idea of their losses, and it seemed to make them heart-sick to be interviewed.

Dover, a short distance below Ripley, lies for the most part very high, but a portion of the town was submerged, and the storm did some damage here, too. Tobacco warehouses all along the River seemed easy prey to the avaricious waters, that swallowed them up as some leviathan would a small angle worm. Among the principal losers at Dover were John Osborne, H. Cushman, F. C. Westfall, J. N. Boyd, Mrs. Newcomb, Oscar Hanna & Co., J. C. Hess, C. W. Hanna, J. J. McMillen, Mrs. Evans, Mrs. Lucy Williams, Peter Anderson, A. H. Hanna, and Martin Davis. The Boyd Manufacturing Co. had 9,000,000 feet of lumber that was threatened with destruction. Two hundred men were employed to save it, and only 10,000 feet got away, and that during the wind storm before spoken of.

Augusta, Ky., is noted everywhere as being one of the handsomest towns on the river. It is beautifully situated and presents a fine appearance from the river. After the flood it was one of the most desolate. Seven-eighths of the place was under water. All the frame houses that were not anchored or tied floated away, and those that were left were

badly damaged, and many of the brick houses that stood the siege had to be greatly reinforced before being safe to inhabit. The *Bracken Bulletin*, Mr. Ned S. Maxon's paper, says: "The west end of town is completely ruined; not a single frame house remains standing on its foundation. Only the brick houses on Front Street are left, and not a whole pane of glass, door or window-sash remains in them. There were fifty-six houses completely wrecked and carried off, and about that many more were damaged to such an extent that they were rendered useless. Four hundred persons here were left houseless and desolate. The flood was just six feet two inches higher than the flood of 1883." It stood nine feet deep in Mr. Maxon's residence on Elizabeth Street, and only lacked four inches of getting into his office, in the second story of the building at the corner of Second and Upper Streets. The handsome residences of Dr. T. S. Bradford and C. R. McCormick, on Front Street, were complete wrecks. After the water receded the streets were so blockaded with houses, fences, and wrecks of all kinds, that it was impossible for a vehicle to pass two squares on any street. The residence of P. S. Blades was nearly demolished by a floating house. The following were among some of the principal losers: Louis Thomas, M. E. Church, John Byae, Moneyhon, Kerans & Co., Mayor's office, Graff & Co., Judge Minor, W. C. Fleming, Mrs. Snider, Luther Owen, Mrs. Roschi, Geo. McKibben, Mrs. Laughlin, the Knoedler-Dunbar rooms, the Kentucky Livery Stable, M. E. Parsonage, W. J. Irwin, John Dora, Mrs. Reeder, M. E. Church, South. The houses entirely destroyed belonged mostly to poor people living in the west end of town, who, in losing them, lose their all. The *Bulletin* said:

"No pen can describe the heart-rending scenes caused by the great calamity that has fallen upon our people. The bitter cup is full to overflowing, and yet it seems to be but the beginning of weeks of suffering and brain-racking torture. The lamentations of the scores of homeless ones are as one great voice of sorrow, crying out to the charitable world for help."

During the heighth of the flood a destructive fire occurred in the Orr Block, which destroyed the drug store stock of L. P. Knoedler and the dry goods stock of J. E. Dunbar. There was ten feet of water on the outside of the building, and a tank of gasoline and four kegs of powder inside. The tank of gasoline sprung a leak and the gasoline ran out over the water. Mr. Knoedler and Joe Harris were sleeping in the building. Mr. K. went down stairs with a lantern to see

how fast the water was rising. The lantern ignited the floating gasoline, and in an instant the building was in flames. Mr. K. jumped into the water, and calling to Harris to save himself, swam and worked his way under the fire and water to the front of the store, where he was rescued, badly burned. Harris saved himself by jumping out of a back window onto a roof. Presently the powder exploded and Dunbar's store was in flames, which, after great effort, were extinguished, but on Monday night, during a fearful storm of wind, a floating house came along and knocked down the walls of the Dunbar room and the destruction was complete. Both stocks were valued at \$28,000, on which there was \$12,500 insurance. The total losses of Augusta have not at this date been estimated, but they are very heavy, and such as it were a pity she could not have been spared.

The bottoms at the mouth of Bullskin, emptying into the Ohio below Augusta, were all under water, destroying a large amount of tobacco in barns. At Moscow and all along at every little village, the people weighted their houses down with rocks, and in many instances were clinging to the chimneys, waiting in great suspense for boats already engaged to come and take them off.

The flourishing town of Higginsport, 3,000 inhabitants, came in also for her share of the great tribulation and misfortune. Many accidents and narrow escapes from drowning occurred at nearly every place where great effort was made to save property from the destroying elements, and the efforts put forth by many to save their homes were adventurous and heroic, but would occupy too much space for insertion here. The following were among the heavy losers: Geo. Bartly, Chas. Reisbrick, Alfred Chapman, Louis Waters, John B. Young, Boyd Manufacturing Company, Mr. Hensgers, Joe Park, Mr. Bertz, Mort Hamilton, Eliza Potter, Emanuel Ott and many others. All the farms above and below were inundated, and steamboats, to avoid the swift current in the channel, ran right over them, and oftentimes would get tangled up and almost lost in the wilderness of brush they would encounter.

The Cincinnati *Commercial-Gazette* chartered the steamer Kate Waters No. 2 on the morning of the 14th, and sent her up the river with supplies and special correspondents and artists to not only feed the hungry and clothe the naked, but to describe fully their wants to a charitable people, and picture the scenes of desolation that were everywhere pre-

sented. We are indebted to this enterprising paper for many facts and incidents in connection with the Kate Waters trip.

Smith's Landing, below Higginsport, suffered considerably, but nothing in comparison with other places. In the same storm that carried off forty-six houses for Ripley, her light-house and ferry-house went down the river, and several houses were lifted from their foundations.

Rural is, or rather *was*, a little village one mile south of Smith's Landing, with a population of 400. It is, or was, in the extreme eastern corner of Clermont County. More than forty houses composed the village. It is completely destroyed as a town. Only five houses were left, and these were so wrecked as to be uninhabitable, wind and wave having completely obliterated even the material of which they were composed. On

FEBRUARY 13,

when the water was at its greatest height here, only an eave of a house here and there could be seen. That night, when the storm came to finish the destruction, the people had all fortunately been conveyed to the hills, and no lives were lost, but the inhabitants were left penniless and destitute, and the town will never be rebuilt. It is literally a "deserted village." The school-houses, country churches and barns in the neighborhood accommodate its population until they can seek and find other homes. It was the custom for relief boats to leave ropes to tie and make secure buildings and bridges, but none ever reached here, for there was nothing to make fast.

At Chilo, below Rural, eleven houses were totally wrecked and disappeared; even a tombstone shop, with marble slabs and monuments, joined the panic stricken caravan of travelers to the sea, and went where no one knew. The following lost their houses entirely: M. S. Hall, Chas. Conwall, E. Cummins, Geo. Heck, Lee Sanders, Ed. Dickson, Mrs. Fry, Mrs. Boy, Mrs. Moore and John Rigglesworth. The following are also badly damaged: Chas. Keiser, Jas. Bartless, Benj. Phillips, Frank Meritt, Wm. Heiser, Lee Patterson, Wm. Brown, Woods & Brother, John Berlew, Nancy Praether, John Sanders and James Greene.

Neville, in Clermont County, was one of the worst used towns by the flood along the river. It was fairly engulfed and buried in water. Possessed of a population of 500 people, not one has a home left not seriously damaged. At a

very critical moment with many houses, that same merciless storm that already had joined forces with the flood, came along and rocked and tottered all but three or four houses off their foundations. It did more damage than the flood had yet done, coming in the night time, when a few had remained to try to look after their property, and a large number were confined in the narrow quarters afforded by the school-house, carried a terror with it that is indescribable. It rolled, wave after wave, over the doomed village, and played with the tottering structures as though they were so many spools in the paws of a playful kitten. The following, among others, are known to have lost their homes entirely: Mrs. Anna Reilly, Mrs. Phebe Willis and Mrs. Larkin—three widows; Samuel Hastings, M. Woods, J. Plummer, John Eiler, Mrs. Wardlow, J. R. Downs, John Brophy, Wm. Black & Co., Aaron Gibson, Geo. Bronson and Rev. J. C. Waite. Large warehouses and buildings were lifted up and set down on land belonging to others. Rev. Waite's house, above spoken of, floated a mile below town and was lodged on Samuel Lemon's farm, against a steep hillside, where, when the water went down, the house tumbled over. This farm has lodged a dozen houses out of the flood, notwithstanding it lost some itself, among them a large warehouse for tobacco, owned by Mr. Lemon. Only one monument stood above water in the old graveyard—that of Captain John McClain, a pioneer steamboatman, long since dead.

At Foster's Landing, opposite Neville, there was scarcely a stable or outbuilding left. Several houses joined the procession, and several were moved from their foundations.

Moscow, the next town below, comes in with many wounds and grievances from the flood. In 1883 it was thought she had suffered enough for one generation, but misfortunes come not alone, and she was called upon to again undergo suffering which, compared with '83, made that year but a circumstance. In 1883 thirty-five houses stood entirely out of water. In 1884 there was but one that was out. An average depth of seven feet of water covered the town, the streets being navigable from the upper to the lower side and back to the hills. Here, very singularly, the churches could not be used for refuge, owing to the fact that they were flooded. In nearly every town along the river the churches have been elevated sufficiently to afford a retreat to those driven from their homes. Three feet of water was on the floor of the M. E. Church. The second story of the school-

house and the third stories of the Masonic and Odd Fellows' Halls afforded accommodations to many families. The water here surpassed the best efforts of '83 by going seventy-three inches higher. Many, in fact nearly all of the women and children, went to the country. The following had their houses moved from their foundations: Mrs. Metcalf, two; Mrs. Lellyet, John Manning, Dr. Moore, John Bayless, Mrs. Glaser, Jas. Carnes, Mrs. Young, Mrs. Wylie, Dr. Cole, Mrs. Parker. The following had houses to float away from their foundations: Mrs. Glaser, Robert Johnson, Frank Denkinger, Reardon & Son, Mr. Hirling, William Gregg, Town Jail, Johnston & Kinsey, John Manning, Syd. Cushing, Geo. W. Nash, Wm. Young, Theo. Hughes, McGrath & Lane, Deyman & Gates, Wesley Fee, Mrs. Dorsey. The following had the water to reach their second-story: Wm. S. Gregg, Will Fisher, Chas. Cushard, Geo. Manning, Prof. J. G. Moorhead, G. G. Sargent, editor of *Moscow Telegram*; Misses Woodruff, Hugh McLean, Mrs. Anna Scott, Geo. Buchanan, Lewis Camery, Johnston & McKinney, B. F. Fisher, B. G. Wood. Mr. C. A. Cline, after midnight the night of the windstorm, was working with others to save property, when the storm drove him on to the roof of his stable for safety, which was up to the eaves in water. It presently toppled over with him and he jumped into the flood, but was rescued by friends. The stable and a fine family carriage floated off and were never heard of afterward.

At Point Pleasant, O., it was but a repetition of the same sad story narrated of other small towns. This town is famous as having been the birthplace of General U. S. Grant. He was born here April 27, 1822. His parents afterward moved to Georgetown, but here it was the General first heard the songs of birds, and the house in which he was born still remains. It is situated two squares from the river. It was the first time in its history that it had been invaded by the water. The water about the house was from one to two feet deep. The *Commercial Gazette* says:

"The house is frame, with the space between the weatherboards and the plastering filled in with bricks and mortar. It is, therefore, unusually strong. No one in the neighborhood knows its age or history, but the people of the town are very proud to point to it as the center of a great deal of interest to the world. It has been kept in good repair on account of its historical value, and nothing has been changed in its surroundings since the youngster Ulysses first made the windows rattle. In the winter of 1822-23 the big back-log in those old-fashioned chimneys at the side of the house sent up its scintillations.

for the amusements of the baby destined to make the sparks fly in another way. The house is occupied by Mr. Charles Morgan and family, and is the property of Mr. Michael Hirsch, who may be wise enough to let it alone."

The issue of the *Commercial Gazette* of February 17, has a sketch of this rude looking old house as it appeared at that time. The losses were not large here, and the inconveniences and privations not near so great as at most points.

At California, Ky., the storm lifted all one-story houses from their foundations and unsettled many others, but none were carried away. It was impossible for boats to land, and the only way the inhabitants got relief was to send out skiffs to the passing steamers that were on errands of mercy.

New Richmond, O., a little below California, is a town of 3,000 inhabitants. One-third of the population is colored, who in the best of times live poorly and from hand to mouth. During the flood their destitution was very great. Hundreds of houses were submerged entirely. The town hall, churches, school-houses and society halls were filled with women and children of all ages, sexes and social standing. The wealthiest people were cooped up in attics or the highest stories; cooking off of grates and their rooms crowded beyond all comfort and almost beyond endurance. An unusual number of people were sick at the time, and many dangerously so, and altogether the situation was doubly uncomfortable and distressing. Cut off as they were for a week or ten days from the outside world, the water coming constantly up day and night, provisions and fuel nearly exhausted; the water on the first floor of every store and grocery, and in many cases up to the roof, and only the second stories of the hotels and largest buildings being used, it was a terrible experience—so terrible indeed that the citizens came near losing all hope. Batavia wagoned provisions to the afflicted town daily, but they were inadequate to the demand, and a vast amount of suffering was endured. Eleven towns and villages are spread along the Ohio in Clermont County; all were submerged, all crying for help, and all with the same sad story in their mouths of houses gone, household goods lost, stock drowned, cemeteries disinterred of the dead, and people madly fleeing from their all for their lives and the safety of their families. oftentimes rushed out in the night with hardly enough clothing to cover their nakedness—it was an awful situation. The towns of Batavia, Milford, Boston, Williamsburg, Stone Lick and other places came up nobly to the rescue and threw into the place

four-horse loads of provisions, one after another, to stay the famished stomachs of the people, and it was no small task to feed even for one day near 2500 people unable to help themselves, but it was done, by what exertion and by what sacrifices and liberality will never be told by tongue or pen. The water was eight inches deep in the second-story of D. L. Weinnan's office, the editor of the New Richmond *Independent*. The ceiling of the telegraph office was two feet under water. Over a mile of the New Richmond narrow-gauge railroad, together with the long trestle west of town, had risen bodily from the ground, the ties bearing the rails above the water. The losses in all this region to town, villages, and farms between, are immense, and can never be computed.

We now find ourselves at California, Ohio, in the extreme east end of Hamilton County, a town of 400 inhabitants. The Little Miami River empties into the Ohio just below. The citizens of this town suffered so severely by the flood of 1883 that as soon as it became evident that a repetition of last year's scenes were on the programme, they packed their things, and all who could deserted the town and abandoned it to its fate. From the New Richmond pike to the river front, the whole town was under water. Greenwood's Hall, the Odd Fellows' Hall and Township Hall were densely packed by those that remained, and the cooking was done under great difficulties on top of the heating stoves. Until last year California was comparatively uninjured by the rises in the Ohio, and it was a source of great congratulation to her. When the water advanced to the very thresholds of the dwellings last year, many went to bed with the firm conviction that the water was as high as it would get, and were too incredulous to remove the carpets from the floors, or do a thing until all of their household property on the first floors was floating around in three or four feet of water. This year they thought they were doing all in the world necessary to be done when they put their things on scaffolds two and three feet above last year. As many as thirty people in the place last year refused to move their horses and cows to the hills until there was a raging current from five to ten feet deep in the lower part of town, and the highlands above the New Richmond pike, a distance of nearly half a mile. At last, when it was patent to the most stolid that they must either be ferried across or perish, it was necessary to build a large flatboat, on

which they were put, one or two at a time, and towed ashore by skiffs, which, when occasionally the animals were slightly fractious, was attended with no small degree of danger, as several of the horses were thrown overboard in mid-stream, and had to struggle hard to save themselves. The cattle were ferried over from the Old Ross Place (the highest point between the pike and the Kentucky shore), and at one time the old place presented the appearance of a Western "round-up," from the number of cattle awaiting transportation. Nothing of this kind was necessary this time; every horse and cow was removed in good time, and every carpet was ready to pull up at a moment's notice; so that while the inconvenience is of course very great, the damage to household effects is slight compared to last year. The same condition of affairs applies to neighboring farmers. Among them the heaviest loser was Mr. James Parker, proprietor of Parker's Grove Picnic Ground, whose losses to houses and crops was very heavy. Mrs. Ebersole lost an immense amount of corn in the crib and hay in the immense old barn which has stood the floods of seventy years. It was built in 1808, of immense, heavy hewn logs, on a spot so high as to defy all previous floods. Her son Stanley this year kept a large force at work several days removing the corn and hay, so that their loss will be much less than last year, though they will again this year have an immense amount of drift to clear away after the water subsides. But with all the preparations made the water kept creeping over where it was thought impossible for it to come, and after the scaffolds were reached it was impossible to remove anything, and the water was left to work its ruin. The Enterprise Foundry folks put their sand two feet above last year, and again removed it upon the rafters. It will be remembered the old foundry caved in last February, and the immense roof floated down the river. The large building adjoining withstood the flood, and Mr. Barney Schilling bought it, and has since been using it for his livery stable business. He removed all his valuable horses and vehicles, including his valuable imported stallion, to high ground. It was fortunate he did so, for the walls crumbled, and the large roof floated off in search of its companion of years gone by. Mr. Schilling's loss in hay, corn, etc., will be serious, but he is consoled by the fact that he saved his imported stock, which loss would have been irreparable. The citizens of California indeed had a very hard time of it. Their losses in 1883 were very

heavy, and to suffer again; and even more severely at this time, was enough to entirely discourage, if it would do to give way under the pressure of adversity. Many working and farm people had not recovered from their losses of last year when this flood came and drove them the second time from their homes. For more than a week over 100 houses were flooded, some carried entirely away, and others damaged to such an extent as to be altogether uninhabitable. At least fifty families were homeless until their houses were rebuilt or made over. Some of the farmers of that section till rented ground, and have lost two successive crops. Nine-tenths of the people suffered so severely that many utterly despaired of ever attempting to get a foothold again, and, in fact, this is true of every inundated district the length of the river. But we must pass on, and continuing our journey through scene after scene of desolation, we arrive at Cincinnati, justly styled the Queen City of the West, on the morning of St. Valentine's Day,

FEBRUARY 14, 1884.

A sad valentine it is for this beautiful city. The water reached its greatest height here at 12 o'clock noon, making the almost incredible height of SEVENTY-ONE FEET THREE-FOURTHS OF AN INCH, OR FOUR FEET EIGHT AND THREE-QUARTER INCHES HIGHER THAN IN 1883.

We leave it to the Cincinnati papers to describe the situation of that city, as it was at the height of this torrent of waters.

[From the Enquirer, February 15.]

The condition of the flood sufferers of the extreme East End at the present time is worse than ever. The cold weather which sprang up night before last has driven them to temporary homes in the railroad cars.

At Linwood the levee is entirely covered by water, and Mount Washington and Newtown are completely cut off from any connection with the city.

At Columbia, every house south of the railroad for several miles is under water. In both Pendleton and Columbia every submerged building has been raised from its foundation, and it is safe to say that not a house in Pendleton is resting in its original position. In some places there is to be found a group of three or four houses floating about in the water, which are only prevented from drifting away by the eddies created by the water passing over the streets.

All through Fulton the flood has played sad havoc. Ferries have been established between the East End Garden and Torrence Road, and from Torrence Road to Ferry Street, also on Pearl Street, from Kilgour to Butler, and on Third Street, from Lock to Fourth and to Butler Street. They are all doing a profitable business.

Every house south of the Little Miami Railroad from Linwood to the Miami depot is submerged, and much damage is being done to the manufactories, and along the streets.

THE WEST END.

All day yesterday in the Millcreek bottoms the scenes of the past few days were re-enacted. The suffering increased tenfold, not from the rising waters, but from the cold, biting atmosphere that penetrated the flooded houses and caused the inmates to huddle more closely together in their efforts to keep warm. Desperate means were used in some cases to keep out the cold, window shutters and doors being taken from their hinges, broken up and burned. The few relief boats in this vicinity worked like Trojans to supply the destitute with coal, but it seemed that, do what they would, the demand continued to increase.

On every hand they were met with piteous appeals, curses and demands for fuel. There is a considerable number of persons in the flooded district in and adjacent to Millcreek who imagine that the Relief Committee and boats are put there to answer their beck and call, and whenever any of them imagine they are slighted, or their demands not acceded to in an instant, they heap a tirade of abuse upon the heads of the Good Samaritans that almost causes the atmosphere to turn blue.

No serious accidents occurred in this locality yesterday. Several small frame houses were loosened from their foundations, and, in one or two cases, were overturned. A boat filled with passengers for the Ohio and Mississippi overturned when near the foot of Sixth Street. All the passengers were rescued. One who went under with valise in hand reappeared without that very necessary traveling appendage. The valise not coming to the surface, one of the drenched passengers plucked up courage enough to say that the cork must have got out of the bottle.

At five o'clock last evening the water from Liberty Street had connected with that on Freeman Avenue coming north, and that corner was covered to the depth of nearly two feet. The water in Millcreek is supposed to be widest opposite Wade Street, where it has reached to within a few feet of Baymiller Street, and reaches to Walker Mill road on the West. This, of course, means the territory north of Sixth Street. The icy edges of the flooded district were lined, as usual, all of yesterday, with the curious, whose faces brightened whenever the reports of a probable stand or fall were given out.

EAST OF VINE.

The cold wave which swept over the city Wednesday night and continued yesterday had no apparent effect on the throngs of people visiting the flooded districts east of Vine Street. As early as nine o'clock in the morning the boatmen were as busy as bees carrying passengers to and from the bridges, and rowing them over the flooded streets. The ladies in their heavy wraps and the gentlemen likewise seemed not to care for the sharp breeze that blew over the waters, and whistled around the corners in the telegraph wires. Quite a number of ladies were observed riding through the flooded streets wrapped in seal-skin cloaks, and seemingly enjoying their novel trip.

On Vine Street a temporary walk had been erected, leading out into the water several feet, from which passengers could embark in skiffs. At Walnut Street in the afternoon the jam of people was very great. In the passage way formed by fences built by the bridge company, leading to the platform landing for their flat-boats, they were packed closely, awaiting their turns for transportation to the bridge.

Third Street was crowded with pedestrians going from street to street leading to the river. At each one, some of them stopped for a look at the water, and then on to the next.

The continued rise of the water Wednesday night floated away the plank walk leading to the Newport bridge from Pearl Street. This left the only approach to the bridge to be by means of boats, and the boatmen had all they

could do to accommodate the many persons desiring to gain a sight of the waters from the bridge.

On both the bridges all day sight-seers were plenty, facing the keen north-west wind with apparent indifference. The extraordinary expanse of water had more attraction than the cold had effect.

Through the flooded streets the relief boats were hurrying here and there, taking people out of buildings who could not stand the cold, added to the dampness, and furnishing food and fuel to those who still clung to the water-bound houses. Both relief and police boats were doing good work yesterday, and they found an abundance of it, enhanced by the cold snap. It is almost impossible to describe the suffering in Pendleton, where fully eight hundred houses were completely submerged, and fully four thousand persons are rendered homeless. At the present writing nearly every house has been swerved from its foundation, and many are floating about the streets. The high winds, which prevailed yesterday carried away more than twenty houses.

THE SITUATION AT CUMMINSVILLE.

The water reaches in an unbroken sheet from the Stock Yards to Gear's Turf Exchange, on Spring Grove Avenue. Many buildings are toppling over, and the damage will be very great to frame houses. Furniture that was stored in the second story rooms of buildings has been removed from hundreds of houses, the water having reached a depth of three and five feet on the upper floors. The marble slab erected last year to mark the highest point reached by the water on the knoll, on which is situated the old Knowlton homestead, is several feet under water. Every submerged family that can afford it, now owns a boat. A rough box boat costs from five to eight dollars. The supply of coal oil here has about run out, and there is none for sale at the stores. The people are cautioned to use what they have sparingly, or they will soon be left in total darkness. The police were requested to arrest all intoxicated persons found on the streets and lock them up for safe keeping. The Chief of the Fire Department, Mr. Bunker, visited this place yesterday, to make arrangements, if possible, to provide better protection from fire out here, as our engine can only protect four blocks of Precinct A, the rest of the plugs being under water. The Twenties are busy pumping water day and night, keeping the supply up in the mains out here. The Knowlton Street School House, which is now being used as a relief depot, is accommodating two hundred lodgers. Over eight hundred rations were given out yesterday.

CINCINNATI'S NOBLE CHARITY.

The work of the Relief Committee still goes bravely on, and Cincinnati has full reason to be proud of her organization. From the Chairman down to the watchman, who "holds the fort" at night, all hands have labored with a steady and persevering effort, throwing all their will and strength into the work, as if the sufferers were bound to each and every one by the strongest ties of relationship. The Queen City presents to-day a picture which calls forth the admiration of the world, and shakes the belief of the veriest cynic. Herself a sufferer in no small degree from the ravages of this mighty overflow, she nobly declines all proffers of aid from without in favor of places where the suffering is greater in proportion, while all her citizens, from careless youth to tottering age, come forward with their offerings upon the altar of sacred Charity. Here the working man places his dime beside the dollar of the millionaire, and both work side by side, shoulder to shoulder, in the labor of love, giving everything, expecting nothing, but all uniting their best efforts in answering the wail of suffering humanity. The cry of distress rises from the turbid waters of the swollen Ohio, and its note has not died away before the flag of relief is nailed to the mast, and all embark in the common cause. No impassioned appeal of orator or poet so moving as this! No spectacle so grand in all the history of man.

At the headquarters yesterday the same rattle and rumble of heavily laden trucks, and the same hurrying to and fro greeted the beholder as did the day before. The room was cold and cheerless, owing to the sudden change in the weather, but the Burnet House sent a quantity of hot coffee to the workers there, and, later in the day, Mr. John Grossius donated the use of a large furnace, which, placed in the center of the room, soon sent out a cheerful and invigorating heat. When the committee met in the morning Chairman Uerner announced that some \$60,000 had been sent in from points outside, and all had been expended in the work of relief without the city, and that arrangements had been made to send a barge of coal to Lawrenceburg last evening.

GOVERNMENT RELIEF.

General A. Beckwith, of the United States Army, in charge of the Government appropriation for the flood sufferers, arrived in the city last night, and is quartered at the Grand Hotel. An *Enquirer* reporter called on the gentleman immediately on his arrival, and was cordially received. The General has just received the following dispatch from Secretary Lincoln :

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 14, 1884.

To General Amos Beckwith, United States Army :

The following is a statement of the amounts by me authorized to be expended by Mayors of cities on the Ohio River below Ironton : Greenup, Ky., \$500 ; Maysville, Ky., \$1,000 ; Augusta, Ky., \$500 ; Newport, Ky., \$1,000 ; Lawrenceburg, Ind., \$2,000 ; Madison, Ind., \$2,000 ; Evansville, Ind., \$1,000 ; Shawneetown, Ill., \$2,000 ; total, \$10,000.

ROBERT LINCOLN, Secretary of War.

General Beckwith said :

"I will start a boat down the river to-morrow night, with 120,000 rations aboard, and they will be put where they will do the most good. On the following day the up-river boat will be started, and run as far as Ironton. I would have liked to have got to work sooner, but I was delayed twelve hours on the road. I will push things now that I have got a start. There will be about \$125,000 to be distributed in and about Cincinnati."

AT NEWPORT.

While the cold wave yesterday brought glad tidings to the people that it would check the rise in the river, it only added to the suffering. The increased demand was truly wonderful, and it has only partly commenced, for after the water subsides, the suffering will be greater than now, and the committee are in a quandary as to how to supply the demands that will be made on them for fuel. No city or town on the Ohio River has suffered as much as Newport in proportion to her population. Here is a city with a population of twenty-five thousand people, and eighteen thousand of them are homeless, and are crying for aid to relieve them in their distressed condition. The condition of property in the submerged districts is indescribable.

Brick houses have caved in by their foundations being washed away, while frame cottages are twisted in every conceivable shape. A number of them have floated away, others have turned up on their ends, and nearly every street in the flooded district is blockaded by a house that has been washed away from its foundation. Fencing and outhouses have been carried out, and it is no trouble to find a fence in one part of the city that belongs half a mile up in the other part. In the event that the property is repaired, which is doubtful, it will require an army of men to work all summer, and then it is doubtful whether they can repair the damages, which in this city will amount to nearly \$1,000,000.

AT THE RELIEF STORE.

This place was crowded again yesterday, and the committee was kept busy distributing provisions all day to the vast crowd of suffering and hungry ap-

plicants. It is a perfect sight to see the clamor for food every day that is made. Yesterday, at this place, there were distributed two thousand gallons of coffee, twelve thousand loaves of bread, twenty-five barrels of potatoes, five hundred pounds of meat, and one thousand gallons of soup, in addition to the vegetables. The Relief Committee was compelled yesterday to place two more kettles in the building to supply the demand. At the present rate of consumption it will require more money than is coming in now to supply the want for food, to say nothing of the coal.

THE SITUATION AT COVINGTON.

"It is falling." How glad the words were received as they fell last night from the lips of hundreds of people. While Covington properly has not suffered to the alarming extent of that of her sister city of Newport, it has been sufficient to cause great alarm among the business men of the city.

The Relief Committee have met with unprecedented success, and are receiving a large number of subscriptions in money and wagon loads of provisions and clothing from every quarter. They are supplying about three hundred families in the city, and are fortunate enough to have plenty to do it with.

[From the Commercial-Gazette, February 15.]

FROM BRIDGE TO BRIDGE.

Hard upon the stroke of noon yesterday—St. Valentine's Day, 1884—came the shrill and welcome cry of the newsboys that the mighty flood stood still; that it had paused at the second line of hills even as Amrur, all conquering, had halted only at the sea. The sunlight was dancing in the crisp, clear air, the crust of the earth was frozen, and there was every indication that the hungry Ohio was satiated at last. Had the ruin wrought been exaggerated? Were these tales of drowning cities, that came on every breeze, partially born of imaginations excited by the awful resistlessness of the form in which disaster came? These were pertinent questions, and to answer them in one direction at least, a staff correspondent undertook a trip through Newport; a voyage it proved. After the latterly familiar boat ride from the north side of Pearl Street to the Cincinnati end of the Suspension bridge, the struggle for a foothold thereon, and a short walk through Covington, only whose rivermost houses seem to be under water, a skiff and an expert oarsman were secured. The boatman was such as are providentially plentiful among Newport born men, the sisters of many of whom could row in a way to shame the average bungler in the daily dangerous scramble on Vine and Walnut Streets. He knew every inch of the venerable old town, which stood where it now lies submerged before the first settler had set foot in Cincinnati. The route taken—if being remembered that it ran between rows of dwellings or little stores, some wholly under water and floating from their foundations, some tenantless, because the flood level had reached the second story, and others occupied only up stairs—will perhaps give a better idea of the extent of the calamity than could any map or illustration. The writer was rowed from the end of the bridge over the swollen Licking, to Bellevue Street, thence on Bellevue Street to Isabella Street, and then southward on Isabella six or seven squares, to Ringgold Street. At the head of Isabella Street dry land could be seen, but so could also the open commons beyond the city's limits. A look eastward on Ringgold showed that Central Avenue, parallel with Isabella, could not be rowed into, but westward, clear to the Licking, there was deep and unbroken water, and so it had been on every crossing of a street running east and west, while eastward as well, on those between Ringgold and the river, the flood stretched further and further, until on Taylor navigable water could be seen clear to the Methodist Church, which is just west of the Louisville & Nashville bridge. Returning down Isabella, it was therefore easy to take the first cross street, and rowing east one block, to swing into Central Avenue. Going then northward toward the river, every

crossing showed the same uniform vista of water each way, mounting to a surprisingly uniform height upon the houses, seldom being lower than the top of the door of the first story, often entering the second, and frequently covering all but the top ridge of the roof, according to the nature of the structures themselves. When Taylor Street was reached a westward course—toward the Licking—was taken for two blocks, and the rear gate of the Barracks entered. The trip over the old parade grounds, the scene of so many memorable and brilliant gatherings, social and military, was made on at least ten feet of water, the flood being over the porches of the barracks proper, up to the middle of the first story of the officers' quarters, half over the guard-house, and high up, playing at will in the rooms under the historic ball-room, while the melancholy-looking hospital at the convergence of the two rivers, stood ghost like against the back ground of blue sky and yellow waste of waters. Leaving the Barracks, over the fence of the Commandant's quarters, and keeping well over the sidewalk of Front Street, to avoid the fierce current, the journey was resumed eastward, or up the river, on a level with the second story windows of the residences of the best-to-do people of Newport. Without exception, the latter were cut off of communication to their lower stories, and some few had been driven out altogether, or up to the third floor. A call was made upon one of these families. Invited to enter, it was easy to step from the light skiff into the window of the front bedroom, improvised, in the earlier stages of the flood, into a parlor, but—with the water only five inches from the rafters forming the floor—now a scene of partial preparation for final flight. The rooms—the house in this case was brick—were all warm and comfortable, and without even a suggestion of dampness. A rear bed-room was improvised into a dining-room, a bath room formed a kitchen, and a side porch an ample store-room and coal-house. An old Dutch clock, which had been carried up stairs, was pointed out as having been through the floods of 1847 and 1883, and now through the flood of floods, the climatic one of 1884. The journey resumed, the skiff was headed southward, up York Street. The doorway of "Barlow's," a once famous inn, corner of York and Front, on whose sides painted tin slips used to indicate the flood mark of 1832 and 1847, were far under water. Turning out of York, and going eastwardly on Eglantine, Monmouth was reached, and at Monmouth and Taylor the water ceased to be disastrously deep, though the skiff was easily rowed up Taylor to the Methodist Church, or within a hundred feet of the Newport end of the Louisville & Nashville bridge.

The above outline of an hour's voyage through Newport is given with a view to give the reader, if possible, a realizing sense of the extent of the flood in this one town, with reference only to the vast area, all covered with habitations—for even the few stores have residences above them—which has been inundated. The sights and incidents of such a trip would cover columns. Relief boats, flying the white flag of the different associations at their bows, were met constantly. Overturned houses and cottages floating from their foundations were common sights—in one place a whole row of one-story dwellings, floating in a confused heap. Hundreds of out-buildings, of almost uniform architectural structure, anchored singly or in groups, floated on every side, scarcely one being right side up, their number being surprising—even appalling, especially so when we consider that 20,000 people are homeless. A frame tobacco warehouse in the rear of the Barracks had floated from a post foundation to an adjoining lot. The late Billy Ringo's orphaned heirs peered from the windows of his old homestead, as if wondering if the desolate scene around had not some mysterious connection with the departure of their benefactor. A hundred lanterns, removed from public lamp-posts, and stored upon a raft in front of the city, bore the names of the flooded thoroughfares, as if they were monuments erected to the memory of departed streets. Skiffs bearing ladies could be seen entering the hall doors of well known residences on side streets, and the compliments of the day were passed with seeming cheerfulness. Of the

hundreds of faces seen at upper windows, some were sad, with the fixedness of cruel disappointment, if not of despair. Others were bright, and their owners exchanged chaff with the small portion of the occupants of boats who seemed bent on sight-seeing and pleasure. Most of those in scows and skiffs were serious enough, and once at a corner the *Commercial Gazette* craft passed one containing black-robed priests, whose demeanor indicated that they were taking the consolation of religion to the sick or dying.

[Commercial-Gazette, 15th.]

At noon yesterday the river at Cincinnati reached the highest mark that it is known ever to have attained in this part of the Ohio Valley, and then remained apparently stationary for two hours, at seventy-one feet and three-quarters of an inch. The flood had then reached its limit for the present, and began slowly to fall, so slowly that it took four hours to move a quarter of an inch down the gauge. This check to the progress of the flood is due to the sudden and considerable fall of temperature within the past twenty-four hours and the prevailing cold.

The reports of destitution and suffering throughout the Valley are distressingly numerous, and the flood has not yet completed its work. Telegraphic news is graphic in its accounts of the situation at the various points to which access can as yet be had.

[Enquirer, 13th.]

THE MILLCREEK VALLEY.

A canal boat was chartered yesterday, and on short notice an excursion to Cumminsville and return was tendered those desiring to view the inundated Millcreek Valley. The boat left Canal and Vine Streets at half-past two o'clock, with quite a large number of curiosity seekers on board. The accommodations were not of the best order, but Oriental rugs and upholstered furniture were not expected on a canal boat, and the jolly party made things merry throughout the trip. The excursionists were made up principally from the merchants on 'Change, which was about the only place the voyage was advertised, and as the big, clumsy vessel moved from street to street through the city proper, the crowd was increased by stray passengers dropping aboard from the bridges as the boat passed under. A fare of fifty cents for the round trip was collected from each passenger, and as the proceeds go toward relieving the flood sufferers, the charge was paid with pleasure. It required an hour and a half to make the trip from Vine and Canal to Cumminsville, including several stoppages, but as the backwaters in many portions of the Millcreek Valley were visible from the boat, the hours passed swiftly by, and barring the return, which was somewhat tedious through the darkness, the trip was hugely enjoyed. The valley between Brighton and Fairmont was plainly seen, with all its desolate surroundings. As the boat moved out further from the city the submerged portions of Colerain and Spring Grove Avenues became visible. The former is covered with water in a number of places where the bed of the street lies low, while a greater portion of Spring Grove Avenue seemed to be submerged. The roadbed of the Cincinnati, Washington & Baltimore Railroad, between the Stock Yards and the Spring Grove Avenue bridge, will be lost from sight by the rise of another foot, and most probably is not visible this morning. But the greatest picture of desolation and ruin was presented as the boat approached Cumminsville. The buildings in the extreme lower portion of Cumminsville are entirely submerged, and the groups of houses whose roofs only are visible are sufficiently numerous to constitute a village of itself. Crowds of people flock to the water's edge, those from Camp Washington on the one side and from the elevated portions of Cumminsville on the other; but all are stopped by the furious waters of Millcreek, and, in some portions, spectators are even compelled to retreat by the constant swelling of the stream.

An excellent view of the eastern portion of the submerged portion of the town was afforded from the canal; but this locality being sparsely settled in comparison with the lower part of the town, there were fewer scenes of destitution.

Cumminsville is now completely shut off from communication with the city by land. The residents being mostly engaged in business in the city, either remain here or reach their homes by the Elm Street line of street cars to Burnet Woods, followed by a half-mile walk through Clifton, or a boat ride over the inundated streets to the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton Railroad track. There is no way of reaching Cumminsville by avoiding a boat ride, unless by a walk to Winton Place, where there is a high and dry crossing.

Dayton and Bellevue, Ky., came in for their full share of misery, destruction and misfortune. Both towns were submerged completely. There were hopes entertained that at least a part of the towns would be spared, but all who entertained them were doomed to disappointment. Nothing was to be seen but the hurrying to and fro and the cries of the distressed as they betook themselves to higher quarters. The same old story of houses being lifted from their foundations and carried away, people driven from their homes or into the upper stories and attics of their buildings, and huddled together in such numbers as to make life almost a burden, were met here as elsewhere. The loss in Dayton is not less than \$100,000. Everything seemed desperate. The people appeared to yield to their fate with a kind of resigned despair. It seems almost like a dream now, but the 14th of February, 1884, witnessed perhaps more distress and privation at Cincinnati and in the towns in the vicinity than any locality in the United States ever experienced in its history before, and when we consider that it was the same and, in scores of instances, far worse, for a distance of nearly one thousand miles, we see how inadequate are words to describe and how the mind fails even to comprehend the height and depth of it.

We will now leave Cincinnati and glance at what the great waters are doing for the towns and cities below. The first town below Cincinnati of importance is Lawrenceburg, a town of near 4,000 inhabitants, separated from Ohio only by the Miami River that has also been taking a leading part in this great drama of destruction. Of all the towns in the Ohio Valley, Lawrenceburg seems to have been most ill-fated and most helpless from her situation and surroundings. The Big Miami broke through the levees built at great expense, and poured a deep and rapid stream through her very streets, so swift and irresistible as to almost make the getting about in boats and skiffs impracticable. Hundreds of houses were toppled over and swept away lightly upon the tide, as

though made expressly to float swiftly and buoyantly as transports of peace and prosperity. Large substantial structures, that looked as though built for all enduring time, were undermined and burst, sometimes falling in and sometimes falling out, endangering everything within reach. Each hour, moment you might say, added a new feature of destruction and dismay. For ten days, without cessation, the mad work of the deluge went on, many of the people clinging to their property up to the last moment, only to see it swept away or crumbled into piles of wreck and rubbish. Fed only by the charitable hand of the outside world, twenty-seven hundred and eighty-four people—a thousand or more had fled, abandoning everything—cooped up in the narrowest of quarters, and fed through the windows of the top-most stories with rations as though they were in hospitals, out of fuel, out of clothing, many women with infants in their arms, and up to the knees in water, watching long, dark and wearisome nights through, afraid to close their eyes in slumber even were it practicable for them to do so, for fear of crashing buildings and falling walls. No one can think of their direful situation without a chill of horror. Mrs. Utz, an invalid old lady, was taken from the upper windows of her insecure home, and bound to her bed, and taken over the heaving waters in a skiff to Newtown, where hundreds of others had gone for safety. The groans of the almost dying woman, as she was carried on her bed through the crowd to the landing, caused many an eye to moisten, and presented another phase of the terrible calamity that had smitten the town. Amidst all this could be heard the crashing of the timbers every now and then, first upon this side, and then upon that, of some factory or mill upon which hundreds depended for a living—saw-mills, with hundreds of thousands of feet of lumber, pushing out in the endless chain of wreck—furniture factories—coffin factories—all sorts of industries that maintain the people of the place. The loss to property here is estimated at \$500,000. There is no such thing as describing it. It was simply awful.

The town of Lawrenceburg has had a long and terrible experience of floods. The following, from the *Palladium*, of that town, of February 27, 1832, shows vividly the state of the case then:

“The height of the water at this place over the great flood of 1815 was five feet nine inches, and over that of 1825 about eight feet. High Street, the most elevated part of the old town, was covered from four to six feet its whole

extent. On some of the cross streets the water was still deeper, and the inhabitants compelled to seek refuge elsewhere. The injury done to buildings was trifling—not a single building was carried off entirely. The principal loss is in fences, corn and hay.”

Bad as seemed the situation here, it was almost duplicated at nearly every town on both sides of the river, on down below. Whenever the highest marks were touched, no matter what preparation had been made to receive the flood, it seemed like labor lost. Houses weighted down with rocks on the roof would become top heavy and fall over whenever they began to float; tied with cables they were snapped as though they were rotten. Bridges, weighted down with rocks, would become undermined on one side or the other oftentimes, and the rocks only assisted in their destruction. Merchants would store their stocks in the upper stories, and in many instances pile them on the very house tops, and covering them with tarpaulins or boards, and weighting these down with rocks, would feel that they had made all safe, when a wall would fall, or some part of the building give way, and the work of many hands for many days be undone in a moment.

The entire town of Hardintown, near the Lawrenceburg Junction, two miles from Lawrenceburg, was inundated and the entire population driven from their homes. Nearly all the inhabitants gathered on the hillsides, and quartered with neighboring farmers. A little church called Bellview, in the neighborhood, had a big congregation continuously. Nearly fifty families made it their home. From Hardintown to Valley Junction, a distance of eight miles, all the land between was covered by from twenty to thirty feet of water.

At Aurora, Ind., the situation was not much of an improvement on Lawrenceburg. All west of it was a dead sea of water. The water on the Ohio & Mississippi track, back of town, was more than two and one-half feet deep, cutting the town off from all connection with other places. Here, as in Lawrenceburg, houses were tumbled in promiscuous ruin. The loss to the town is estimated at near a quarter of a million dollars. The distilleries come in for a large share of loss. The water was all over the town; the banks, postoffice—every business—had to be conducted, if conducted at all, in the upper stories. There was little business, however, except that of panic-stricken citizens fleeing to Sutton's Hill. After the water got over the marks of last year, the people began to think it never would stop. If they had been to

that it would go over the steeples of the churches they would have believed it. They were thoroughly alarmed. When a town or city finds itself in such a situation as not to be able to take care of itself, and compelled to depend on outside assistance for the very commonest necessities of life, then, surely, if at no other time, it is both right and proper that they should become alarmed. It is a time to struggle for life, and let property take care of itself. It was so in Aurora. The situation was touching and pathetic.

Rising Sun was one of the "high and dry" towns. It was the incentive to much pride and congratulation during the flood. All the country between the town and Arnold's Creek Bridge, however, was a flooded district. Not more than twenty-five or thirty houses in the town got into water, and they in the lower part of the city. Patriot, Ind., was submerged, and suffered greatly. Warsaw, Ky., was pretty well baptized, but got along very well. Nearly the whole town of Florence, Ind., was submerged, and some of it very deep. Nearly all the surrounding country was flooded, and it was found necessary to send much aid there.

Markland, Ind., was pretty well inundated, but took extreme precautionary measures and thereby reduced her losses very materially. The country back is rich and prosperous, and any who were in distress were well provided for. Between this place and Vevay hundreds of houses were under water, and there was a great deal of suffering. Most of those living on the hillsides were in miserable hovels that were washed down and into the river, the occupants fleeing to the hills or anywhere they could find shelter. Some families were seen living under sheds that had nothing but a roof, and almost nothing to preserve the lives of the family.

Vevay sets back from the river and on quite an elevation; still a good portion of the city got her foot into it. Lots of the inferior houses, in what is known as Slabtown, were washed away. All the way from Vevay to Madison there was the same picture of desolation. Opposite Madison, at Milton, a town of 350 people, all were flooded, and the whole surrounding country was a desolate looking waste of muddy, angry looking water. Perhaps there was no place more so between Madison and Lawrenceburg.

At Madison, near three thousand people were houseless and destitute. The river got two and one-half feet higher than in 1883, but by the time the greatest height of water reached there, which was on the 16th, the charities of the country were

in such a well organized condition as to send immediate relief, all that was needed, and while suffering considerably in loss and damage to property, fared excellently compared with many other towns. The water was a foot deep on the second floor of the Western Hotel, and the backwater extended around on the north side of the city on West Street, inundating Springdale Cemetery, and the lowlands for several miles below. Seven houses were washed out of East End and also out of Milton, opposite. Business of all kinds was suspended in the face of the overwhelming disaster.

Passing by the scores of towns, villages, landings and private property on the river banks of Indiana and Kentucky, and almost numberless happy little farm homes that lie between, that were savagely and mercilessly dealt with by the foaming torrent, we will tarry awhile at Jeffersonville, Louisville and New Albany, all adjacent to each other, and all sufferers by the flood.

At Louisville the river rose to the great height of forty-six feet and eight inches, reaching those marks on the evening of the 15th of February, and there hanging until 11 a. m. on the 16th. This was in the canal. In the channel at the foot of the falls it reached seventy-one feet, or one foot above the flood of 1883. The whole of the north bank of the canal was under water for the first time since its construction, the United States Engineer having elevated it some three feet above the great flood of 1832. The water went, on the 15th, four feet above that flood. As the waters went down the cry of suffering went up. It is no exaggeration to say that from Louisville to Utica, several miles above, as far as the eye could reach, there was nothing to be seen between the hills but inundated farms and tenantless houses, with their chimneys and roofs occasionally peeping above the water. Turned over on their sides were dwellings, barns and outhouses, many of them tumbled down banks or lodged against steep hillsides in the most ridiculous and grotesque positions. Sometimes one would be settled in some thicket, where the topmost branches of the surrounding trees had detained it until the water went down, when, settling, it had mashed down the trees and spread them out, and was finally sustained eight or ten feet above the ground, as though it had been erected on stilts. On the bank, a few miles above Louisville, a correspondent describes a house lying (half reclining, we would say) against the bank, with windows and doors out, chimney gone, and presenting as open and sad a

countenance as a good house ought to, while up over the door was a lamp-black sign, that had stood the wear and tear of the flood, on which were the words: "For Rent—Inquire Within." It was not worth while at this particular juncture, for not even a rat or hooting-owl would have taken up its habitation in so lonesome looking a shanty. Many nice, white-painted cottages, with green blinds, and four or five rooms in them, all presenting an air of thrift and independence, have stopped in fields far from the river banks, and, in some cases, wandered up little bayous and dropped down in the most inaccessible places for even tearing them to pieces and hauling them away. Up these creeks, and away off ten and twelve miles, were some of the extremest cases of suffering found. In Bullitt County, near Pitt's Point, a family named Wilkinson lived for six days on three bushels of corn, which they ate raw. Being cut off from all communication, they were found by accident, and removed to high ground, and properly cared for. Such cases all along the Valley were so frequent it became a part of the task of the relief boats and companies to look for them.

The situation at Louisville was getting very critical as early as on the 11th. Citizens living in the southeastern portion of the city were very much excited through fear of being driven from their homes. Beargrass Creek was rolling out its headwaters in tremendous volume, which almost reached the bridge across it on the east end of Broadway, and threatening to flood that street and cause great loss. The 12th found East Broadway submerged. Trains to Cincinnati on the Short Line were withdrawn. Trains to Jeffersonville and New Albany had ceased. Telegrams from above regarding Kentucky River caused fear and anxiety in every countenance. Several houses were tumbling down in the submerged district. Hundreds more were in great jeopardy. The canal and its approaches at the upper end was nothing but a sea of muddy water. Five thousand people were homeless by the 14th, and another house going over somewhere almost with every wave or inch of rise. Everywhere a waste of water prevailed. Below West Point the bottoms were flooded miles wide. At Rock Haven, Ky., the houses were all destroyed, and the village entirely deserted. The famous "Kidner" cedar farm was overflowed, and the cement mill, employing fifty hands, flooded. Brandenburg, where John Morgan crossed the Ohio in his famous raid, was "high and dry." Enterprise had only five houses left, and 300 people—the en-

ture population of the village—were living in them. At New Amsterdam, out of a population of 250, 150 had been routed from homes. At Leavenworth, Ind., 1,000 inhabitants, the water had covered the entire site of the town, and 600 people had been driven out. Scarcely a frame house was resting on its foundation. Is it any wonder, then, that the Louisville citizen, looking towards Pittsburgh, and towards Cairo, and with the swelling tide all about him, should pale with fear?

At Jeffersonville the situation was awful. The bent-wood works were damaged many thousands; the glass works, furnaces and ovens were ruined. Four hundred men were at work on the streets fighting for the property of the town against the mighty tide. Every street and alley was covered with water. Shops, shipyards and other industries submerged, and nothing but flood and anxious, despairing souls to be seen. Near Clarksville a house was caught floating in a slough, that contained a family of four persons, all dead. At this point it was the Cumberland River that was doing the mischief. From the headwaters down it was overflowing the whole country on both sides, driving hundreds of families from the depressions, many having to leave their homes in canoes. Great distress existed below Clarksville, where the raging waters of the Cumberland were backed by the Ohio. Clarksville itself was drowned out completely. The same was true with the Tennessee River. The waters of every stream had become relentless and irresistible. We speak above of 400 men being at work on the streets. This was all shortly after abandoned. The flooding waters entered first from the rear of the town, and left none unvisited.

New Albany was quite as bad off. The river came to a stand here at 9 o'clock on the night of the 15th—twenty-three inches higher than in 1883, with seventy-three feet in the channel. There was no end to damage, wreck and ruin. A citizen could not stand and look in any direction without it stared him in the face. The whole river bottoms for ten miles below were the same as if swept with a prairie fire of houses, barns, fences and outbuildings. The water stands five feet deep in the L., N. A. & C. Depot, and trains have to leave from East Fourth Street. The water is three feet over West Springs Street, in places. It reaches Oak Street, on State, Pearl, Bank, and East Third Streets. The backwater and Silver Creek united over Vincennes Street, making an island of the city. A three-story brick, Penn Block, on North

State Street, was undermined, and came down in fearful wreck, and twenty other houses floated off their foundations. Every cross stream was full of wreck and debris of the flood. Probably 800 houses were in the water; many of the families inhabiting them were now in the Court House, City Hall, and in box cars of the railroad. The loss here is estimated at between \$200,000 and \$300,000. On Tuesday night, the 19th, a terrible storm swept over this section, doing nearly as much damage as was done by the flood. In the cities the damage from the storm was confined to the flooded districts, but in all the country round the farmers met with terrible losses, even where they had not been flooded.

At Rockport, Ind., some distance below, a party returning from the wedding of Ira Zenor, on a ferry boat, nine men and three women in all, were struck by the same storm, and blown back among thick timber, where they all managed to get hold on an easy tree to climb, and got up among the branches, holding on for dear life. The ferry boat went to the bottom, with everything on board, including a hack and span of fine horses. Mr. John Landon and his son, Washington, hearing their cries, went to their assistance, in great peril to their own lives, and succeeded in getting the party, cold and benumbed, to places of safety.

In Louisville and Jeffersonville a great number of houses were demolished by the wind, but they were almost altogether those that were in a weak condition by the flood. The wind blew with a velocity of sixty miles an hour. The losses are almost incalculable.

We will pass on, however, through this gauntlet of destruction, to Evansville. In the beginning of the flood Evansville was a place of refuge for many towns situated on a lower level, for twenty miles, both above and below, and between thirty and forty families were brought there from towns already submerged. A Relief Committee was organized right in the start, and taking a boat, went to other points where they were in distress, and brought them to Evansville, and cared for them, which was exceedingly commendable on the part of the citizens of that city. Over 250 people from Kentucky had taken refuge at Newburg and Enterprise, and 168 families in and about Grand View, ten miles from Evansville, were homeless, and in a distressed condition. Evansville interested herself in their condition, and aided them in every way; also, they telegraphed the facts to the Secretary of War, and Governor Porter, of Indiana. All this time the

Wabash and Tennessee were rising with great rapidity, and pouring floods of water into the already monstrous Ohio, and causing it to rise with great regularity and perseverance. Uniontown, below, was getting into very bad shape. The town was under to the depth of several feet. Between Uniontown and Shawneetown, the country on both sides of the river, as far as the eye could reach, was a vast waste of water, trees alone marking the dividing line between the river and the shores and the general course of the river. Mt. Vernon and Henderson were faring well up to this time, being situated, like Evansville, above the ordinary level of towns along the banks; but Bridgeport, Rosewood, West Haven, Wolf Creek, Alton, Manchport, Amsterdam, Leavenworth, Derby, Rome, Stephensport, Cloverport, Tobinsport, Hawesville, Tell City, Maxville, were all enduring trials that only the flooded know. The people had fled entirely away from the towns of Bridgeport, Rosewood, and Maxville. Indeed, nearly the last vestige of these towns was swept away. Thirty thousand rations were distributed, with great economy, to these little towns, almost daily, for about two weeks. Not till the 19th, five days after the water had reached its highest point at Cincinnati, did it reach its culminating point at Evansville, making forty-eight feet and one-quarter inch, or two and three-quarter inches higher than in 1883. It is rather a singular coincidence that the two greatest floods that ever visited the Ohio Valley should cease to rise and begin to recede on the same day of the month, and at the same hour (10 a. m.) of the day. That afternoon, at about half-past four o'clock, a storm of great violence struck the city, making sad havoc among shaky buildings, and the shipping at the wharf, sinking boats, and barges of coal that were held in great need at that time, damaging the wharf boats, which were driven on shore, and tearing down house after house on the Kentucky side. Out of ten houses standing in a group at Newburg, twelve miles above, only two were to be seen after the storm. The only wonder is that this terrific storm was not followed by great loss of life from those inhabiting the second stories of their houses, but all of these houses were closely watched, and on the slightest crack or undermining being discovered, they were abandoned at once, with whatever the unfortunate occupants could gather. Many would hardly get out until the house would fall, entirely demolished, and the fleeing inhabitants, in the midst of their great suffering, would rejoice with great gratitude that it was no worse with them. This storm,

that swept down the Valley, and which was felt to some extent in places severely on the upper Ohio, was one of the worst features of the flood. It was estimated that fully one-half of the corn hauled from the bottoms and stored along the river in large depots and warehouses was lost. The river on the morning after the storm was literally strewn with the wrecks of houses carried away by the gale. Fifty houses were washed away at Fairplay. Many people had to be rescued from trees and the hills, some badly frozen. Two men were taken, badly frozen and exhausted, from a tree where they had clung, in wet garments, for six hours, during the darkness of the night, not knowing when the bending, quivering tree would give way and hurl them into the great maelstrom of waters. At Scuffleton, Ky., twelve houses were carried away by the storm, and some narrow escapes made of women and children from watery graves. This storm penetrated far into the interior, and caused great loss of life and property at many places.

At Paducah their serious troubles began on the 11th. The river did not reach its greatest height until the night of the 22d, when it marked fifty-four feet two and three-quarter inches, or two feet two and three-quarter inches higher than in 1867, the previous highest stage of water known. It would take between \$200,000 and \$300,000 to set Paducah back where she was before the flood. The water never reached a level with the town until the 17th. Up to this time the people had been in the best of spirits, business was good, and Paducah was lending her best aid to her unfortunate neighbors. But between this and the 19th the water had been creeping slowly on and on, until her whole river front was flooded. At this critical time the same fierce storm that had played such havoc above, swept down on Paducah. The hard dashing of the water soon began to move and crumble the large tobacco warehouses, oil warehouses, and other large depots of merchandise, and one after another they tumbled into ruin. One firm lost 300 hogsheads of tobacco. The damages on this one night alone amounted to \$125,000 on the wharf of Paducah. The tobacco warehouse of Buckner & Brann, which was destroyed, covered an acre of ground—the largest sale tobacco warehouse in the United States. In addition to the loss of several of these large warehouses of merchandise, fifteen houses, worth from \$200 to \$1,000 each, were beaten to pieces and washed away.

The damage to Metropolis from this storm was dreadful,

amounting to \$150,000. At New Liberty forty houses, already deserted on account of their depth in water, were beaten down and washed away. At Smithland, an already badly wrecked town, thirty houses went down. The greatest distress and destitution prevailed. At Paducah alone 1,500 people were being fed by the Relief Committees. Over one-half of the inhabitable part of the city was in water, while the highest points were not more than two and a-half feet out. Paducah showed much enterprise and independence in looking out and caring for herself, and received just as little as she could get along with. It is a great task to take care of 2,000 homeless people without preparations for company, and when distressed yourself, but Paducah did it, and did it well, with but little outside aid.

A colored man and child, and colored woman and two children, run out of their homes on Indian Creek, in Tennessee, started down the creek in a canoe. In a strong current the canoe struck a tree and the five were thrown out. The man and child were swept away and drowned, but the woman in falling caught two of the children, and falling against a tree she wrapped her arms around it, with a child in each hand, and held on for two terrible hours, when, finally attracting attention by her cries, they were rescued.

At Shawneetown, above Paducah, a great many fled to the hills. Quite a number of the inhabitants were very sick during the flood, and a number died. As early as the 14th the water was getting over the town and routing people who lived in one-story houses, who took refuge on the hills back. These people suffered terribly from the cold, being unable to supply themselves with fuel. Through the streets the river current was running at the rate of eight or nine miles an hour, weakening the foundations of the buildings. It was estimated that between Raleigh and Saline, a distance of fifteen miles, 150,000 bushels of corn were swept away. In all that distance only four lots, amounting in all to 50,000 bushels, were known to have escaped. In the town the depth of water ranged from fifteen to forty feet. Skiffs passed over good sized houses, and were so far above them they could hardly reach the roofs with the oars. These houses were literally weighted down with rocks; so that people may see what desperate measures were taken, and what a vast amount of labor people went to to secure their property. Above and below Shawneetown, for miles, was nothing but a vast sheet of water, on whose bosom were strewed

the wrecks of many happy homes, and the savings of many years.

We now come to Cairo, the terminus of this mad stream that has wrought such widespread devastation to so many happy and prosperous homes, villages, towns and cities.

Cairo and Mound City, just above, are both protected by a system of levees. As long as the levees hold there is no danger, but breaks are always feared, and the suspense in time of high water is nearly as bad as the flood itself in realization. Large forces were put to work on these, repairing and keeping a watchful eye over every part of them. As soon as a break occurred, sand bags were placed in the break. At Mound City, bulkheads were built and sand bags packed against them, and every washout that occurred was given a heavy dose of sand bags at once. All of New Madrid, Mo., was under water, and great reports of suffering and destitution, both from above and below, coming constantly to the ears of those people, made them doubly watchful and vigilant. Several slides occurred at Mound City, but a large train of dirt and rock arriving opportunely on the Wabash Road, and the citizens all turning out and exerting themselves to the utmost, the breach was repaired and the city saved. A large gap was cut in the National Cemetery road, which, letting the water across the country, relieved it of much of its strain. Much the same scenes were going on constantly at Cairo up to the 23d, when the river stood still at fifty-one feet ten inches, about the same height of the year before. The tornado of that week, which occurred on Tuesday night, washed away at Uniontown thirty houses, three of them large warehouses, one containing several thousand bushels of wheat belonging to Captain Hambleton; six houses at Raleigh; New York and Algiers were entirely swept away; fifteen houses were carried away from Fairplay; twenty from Franklin; Blackburn was washed away. At Smithland thirty houses went off, including Leister's warehouse and a large stock of goods; half of the people were left in want. New Liberty was nearly destroyed. The mill, Shearer's residence and store, and the hotel, were left, but with contents hardly fit to use again. At Metropolis, fifty-four buildings were wrecked. The Yankee Saw-mill lost 70,000 feet of walnut lumber and veneers, valued at \$10,000. Shelton & Co.'s Stove Foundry was wrecked, and many business houses with all they contained. The loss here is estimated at \$150,000. At Joppa, just below Metropolis,

thirteen stores and residences were damaged or destroyed, the loss amounting to many thousands. On Wednesday morning, the 20th, three colored men and one white man were rescued here from a tree top, where they had rested all night.

But while all these fearful scenes were being enacted, what were all the towns and cities of the interior, which had escaped this terrible visitation, doing? Were they standing idly at rest, congratulating themselves that they were not as bad off as their neighbors, and lending no friendly aid to the sufferers? Ah, no. With the very first appeal for aid came a prompt response. First from those near by; extending, however, like a ripple on the water, it gathered and spread all over the continent in a mighty wave, until even the hill-tops were flooded with sympathy and aid, and it came rolling down by train, and by steamboat, and by express, and by mail, and by telegraph, and by messenger, until every hungry soul was fed, and every naked back was clothed, and every head sheltered. Such an outpouring of charity the world has seldom seen or witnessed. These usually prosperous, happy and progressive people in the Ohio Valley are very near and dear to every State in the Union, and it was a genuine pleasure for the people everywhere to respond with aid and sympathy. It is difficult to tell who was first, so simultaneous was the response. Wherever the cry was heard it was answered. Great corporations answered; banks answered; merchants, churches, school children, women, employes, everybody answered. The railroads carried whatever was given gratuitously. The telegraph lines were kept busy, and not a cent asked for the service. The telephone lines sung free songs. The express companies charged nothing. Steamboats offered their services free, and all felt for once, if they never did before, that it was more blessed to give than to receive. It was a royal uprising, and the silver lining to the dark and angry cloud that hovered over the Ohio Valley. Such munificent charity, such overflowing sympathy, seemed almost too good to be of human origin, and reminded us that the better side of man is but little lower than the angels after all.

The following proclamations were issued by Governors Porter, of Indiana, and Hoadly, of Ohio:

INDIANAPOLIS, February 11, 1884.

To the People of Indiana:—The Ohio River has already risen to a height exceeding the flood of 1883, and its waters are still rising. The suffer-

ing of the inhabitants of the State resulting in the overflowed towns and on the bottom lands is likely to be very great unless prompt relief is given. When the calamity of 1883 occurred, the people of the State, with noble generosity, vied with each other in giving help. They will not be less mindful of the suffering now. Better provision has been made in some respects for the present disaster than was made for that of last year. Contributions of clothing and bedding are not, it is understood, at present desired, but money is greatly needed, with which immediately to purchase food, and contributions of flour, meal and salt meats are needed where money cannot be conveniently spared. Last year the Relief Committee of the Indianapolis Board of Trade was most prompt, energetic and faithful in distributing the means of relief placed in its hands.

I appeal most earnestly, therefore, to all the people of the State, who have means to do so, to promptly contribute in money or food to the relief of the inhabitants of the overflowed region. And it gives me pleasure to announce to them, where they have not selected other agents, that any contributions sent to N. S. Byram, chairman of the above mentioned committee; Albert E. Fletcher, treasurer thereof, or V. T. Malott, Esq., a member thereof, will promptly and faithfully be applied to the purpose intended.

ALBERT G. PORTER, Governor.

W. R. MYERS, Secretary of State.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, February 12th, 1884.

To the People of Ohio:—The distress existing along our southern borders can not well be exaggerated. Many thousands of our fellow-citizens are without food and shelter. The press has brought vividly to the attention of us all the details of the sorrow and suffering which the present flood has entailed upon our people. The duty of the citizens of Ohio is to furnish relief, and that immediately. I urge upon every community in the State to organize at once for the purpose of providing for the relief of their unfortunate fellow-citizens who live on the banks of the Ohio. Everything is needed, and at every point along the State boundary, except at Cincinnati, which is taking care of her own sufferers. Money, clothing, shelter, and food must be provided, and that speedily, or loss of life will be the result. An energetic committee, of which Mr. P. W. Huntington is the chairman, has been organized in Columbus. This committee will undertake the task of distribution. If the General Assembly should provide for the creation of a State Relief Committee, the appointments will be made immediately, and said commission will also undertake the task of distribution. No time should be lost. Organization should be effected, and that what may be given for the purpose forwarded immediately.

I appeal, therefore, to all the good people of Ohio to take steps without delay to assist the various Relief Committees in their efforts to stay the tide of distress which is overwhelming the borders of the State.

Given under my hand and the great seal of the State of Ohio, at Columbus, this 12th day of February, 1884.

GEORGE HOADLY,
Governor.

Attest:

JAMES W. NEWMAN, Secretary of State.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, February 14, 1884.

To the People of Ohio:—Under the authority of the Act of the General Assembly "for the relief of the sufferers in this State by the present flood," I have appointed Charles W. Constantine, of Springfield; John W. Byrne, of Branch Hill; William H. Wallace, of Steubenville; Joshua S. Crew, of Zanesville, and P. W. Huntington, of Columbus, Commissioners, and they have qualified and organized under the name of "The Ohio State Relief Commission." For the purpose of avoiding waste and duplication of bounty, I respectfully urge the good people of Ohio, whose hearts are moved with sympathy for the

sufferings of their fellow-citizens, to make their gifts through this commission. I make this request with the full concurrence of the Columbus Committee, of which Mr. Huntington is chairman. Shipments and remittances should be made to "The Ohio State Relief Commission, Columbus, Ohio." The commission has ample facilities for distribution, and is devoting itself with zeal, energy and judgment to the work. Given under my hand and the great seal of the State of Ohio, at the City of Columbus, this 14th day of February, A. D. 1884.

GEORGE HOADLY.

By the Governor:

JAMES W. NEWMAN, Secretary of State.

These proclamations were supplemented with eloquent appeals from leading citizens of Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky, to Congress and the State Legislatures. The House Committee on Ways and Means agreed, on the morning of the 11th of February, to report a bill asking Congress for an immediate appropriation of \$300,000 for the sufferers by the Ohio River flood. Later in the day the bill was introduced by Mr. Follett. Mr. Hiscock made inquiry whether the Ohio Legislature had made any appropriation for this purpose, or made any attempt to relieve the sufferers. Mr. Follett replied it had made an appropriation, and so had the Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce. So far as Cincinnati was concerned, she would take care of her own, but Cincinnati was now asking for temporary relief for people caught in a calamity unprecedented since the beginning of the Government. It was not a question of what the letter of the Constitution or the law might be. It was the cry of distress. Mr. Hiscock said he would not have the hardihood to vote against the measure, but he had expected the gentlemen from New York and Connecticut would call attention to the fact that there might be in this resolution a violent attack on the Constitution. No great State like Ohio—an Empire—ought to come here when the Legislature was in session and ask to have her citizens supported from the Treasury. Mr. Conner expressed his heartfelt support of the measure. Mr. Bayne could discover no constitutional difficulty in the way of an appropriation. Mr. Horr contended the pending measure came within the pale of the Constitution. Mr. Goff said the gentleman from New York (Hiscock) spoke as if Ohio should manage this question herself. There were to-day millions of people suffering because of the great flood, and not in Ohio alone, but in Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Kentucky. In the face of the great calamity it was no time to split hairs on a constitutional question. Mr. Taylor, of Ohio, warmly supported the measure, but predicted \$300,000 would be insufficient for the purposes of relief, and de-

clared \$1,000,000 would not be more than sufficient. Mr. Belford was glad an opportunity had been found to open the vaults of the Treasury and to relieve the Government of the surplus revenue so diligently hoarded and scrupulously kept by a Secretary of the Treasury from New York. Talk about the Constitution! Talk about law! Humanity was greater than any Constitution ever formulated by any people. It was humanity for which the Constitution was made and laws were enacted. Mr. Hiscock said that, having reported in the last Congress a bill for the relief of the Mississippi sufferers, he didn't suppose anyone would think he was troubled with any constitutional question. He was not, and yet he was in favor of this sort of thing being confined to States which are not in condition to expend money themselves. Mr. Cox, of New York, questioned the constitutionality of the measure. It should have been passed in silence, and if there was any breach of the Constitution, God Almighty, in his kindness, would pardon it. There were some diseases no foresight could anticipate or cure, and one of these was the calamity now in the country; and if he could not give his hand or his head he would give his heart to this vote. [Applause.] Messrs. Reagan, Townshend, Blount, Jordan, Warner and Eaton spoke in favor of the bill. Mr. Wilson offered an amendment increasing the appropriation to \$500,000. Mr. Follett said the committee thought \$300,000 sufficient. The amendment was rejected—yeas, 109; nays, 159. The joint resolution was then passed—yeas, 233; nays, 12.

On the 13th, the Ohio Legislature debated the bill appropriating \$200,000 for the flood sufferers. An amendment, making the amount \$300,000, was lost and \$200,000 appropriated, and in accordance with the wishes of Gov. Hoadly, authority was given him to appoint a Commission of Five to attend to the distribution. The Governor thought this a better plan, as the State officers were busy and could not well leave Columbus, and the work could be better performed by a Commission. The following were appointed: C. W. Constantine, of Springfield; John Byrne, of Branch Hill; Wm. H. Wallace, of Steubenville; Joshua S. Crew, of Zanesville, and P. W. Huntington, of Columbus. Mr. Constantine was elected President and Mr. Huntington, Secretary. The inundated territory was divided into the following districts: From the State line on the east to Newport, to be known as District No. 1; from Newport to Pomeroy as District No. 2; from Pomeroy west to the State line as Dis-

trict No. 3. District No. 1 was assigned to W. H. Wallace; District No. 2 to J. S. Crew; District No. 3 to John Byrne, C. W. Constantine and P. W. Huntington—Mr. Huntington remaining at Columbus in charge of the funds. On the 15th, a joint resolution from the House, in Congress, appropriating an additional \$200,000, was passed, and the President of the Senate instantly affixed his signature. On the 13th, the Kentucky Legislature appropriated \$25,000 for the sufferers. This was, on the 15th, increased by an additional \$75,000, making Kentucky's appropriation entire \$100,000. The Legislatures of Indiana and West Virginia, not being in session, the citizens of the cities and towns of those States contributed largely. Here, then, was State and United States relief, outside of other donations of a private or charitable character, of near *one million dollars in cash*. The United States having placed her appropriation in the hands of Secretary of War Robt. T. Lincoln, he acted with the most commendable promptness. He did not receive the signed bill till 5:30 on the 12th. But in advance, in order to have the work under way, had at that time telegraphed authorizing the expenditures annexed to the following Mayors: Marietta, O. (for Marietta, Harmar and vicinity), \$2,000; Point Pleasant, W. Va., \$500; Guyandotte, W. Va., \$500; Mason City, W. Va., \$500; Lawrenceburg, Ind., \$2,000; Hartford City, W. Va., \$500; Parkersburg, W. Va., \$1,000; Pomeroy, Ohio, \$1,000; Gallipolis, Ohio, \$1,000; Wheeling, W. Va., \$2,000; Steubenville, Ohio, \$1,000; Martin's Ferry, Ohio, \$1,000; Bridgeport, Ohio, \$1,000; Bellaire, Ohio, \$1,000.

Governors Hoadly, of Ohio; Porter, of Indiana, and Knott, of Kentucky, were equally prompt; but, with all promptness, these were works requiring time, and had it not been for others, who, being nearer to the scenes of devastation, could act and act knowingly, and with a like promptness and dispatch, starvation and the direst extremities must have ensued.

THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS,

not being a sufferer by the flood, and being but little inconvenienced thereby, has no tale of cruel devastation and loss to be told. Her part in that thrilling and never-to-be-forgotten drama was that of the "Good Samaritan"—"The Angel of Mercy"—hence, what we shall say of her comes appropriately here. Being one of the oldest and most favor-

ably known towns on the river, and with her sons and daughters scattered over every State and Territory in the Union, it is with pardonable pride that she rejoices in being the ONLY REALLY HIGH-WATER TOWN OF NOTE IN THE OHIO VALLEY. Providence so decreed, and so it is. It is simply the statement of a cold and solid fact in this connection. She did not survey the situation, however, with a cold and unsympathizing heart, nor turn deaf ears to the wailing cries of the distressed ones around her.

If Providence designed and nature decreed that there should be refreshing and fertile oases in the arid desert, and Gibraltar rocks in mid-ocean—if there should be a balm for every wound, a rose for every piercing thorn, and a silver lining to every desolating cloud, it is not too much to imagine that Gallipolis had as important a part to play, and as important a trust to fulfill, as did the demon of destruction turned loose in the Ohio Valley to smite, blight, and strew in mangled wreck the peaceful and happy homes that were strung as pearls on a silver strand from the Monongahela and Allegheny to the Mississippi. If this was the mission of Gallipolis, in the great flood of 1884, when towns upon towns, and villages and hamlets were hemmed in and engulfed by hundreds, and naught but lamentation and woe ascended from their housetops, then indeed did she fill her mission well, and was sacred to the trust reposed in her. Her hands are clean and her conscience clear. She asks not even commendation or approval. It was but her simple duty, and she did it without ostentation, her only pride being in the fact that she was in a situation to render aid. Her first acts of kindness began with those closest and most immediately related, Point Pleasant, Addison, Cheshire, Chambersburg, Millersport, Athalia, and extending up and down the river as far as her arms could reach. Private subscriptions enabled her to do this, until aid from the interior began to flow in for her use. The City Council made an appropriation of \$500 immediately, and the Board of Health and Township agreed to take care of any of our own people living in the bottoms around us, and who were sufferers or being discommoded, and in need of assistance. But it is not our purpose to go into the details of the work of the Relief Committee. This part of the work has been assigned to a gentleman intimately associated with the work, and who is acquainted with every step of the committees, in their arduous and trying undertakings, and will constitute a chapter by itself. Our purpose is only to describe the general fea-

tures of the flood as it appeared here. From the evening of February 5 to the evening of the next day—twenty-four hours—the river jumped up five feet, or two and a-half inches an hour. Being already in good stage, this caused many to say, "We're going to have a big river." This is what they usually remark here when the water is coming up. We never are disturbed about floods. We read of them, and have a vague idea of the suffering, and inconvenience, and loss, but that is all. On the evening of the 5th, here, the river began the remarkable experiment of seeing how long it could advance at the rate of three inches an hour. That seemed to be its shibboleth and banner cry from Pittsburgh to Cairo. It was so here, and when it began that remarkable and persistent gait of advance we were exactly fourteen feet below the rise of February 9, 1883. Fourteen feet on a big river, from a half to three-fourths of a mile wide, constitutes an awful volume of water, and seemed too great to be ever repeated to the extent of the rise of the year before. But for eighty-four hours there was an almost unintermittent advance of three inches an hour. On Friday morning, February 8, at 10 o'clock, the marks of February 9, 1883, were reached. At 8 o'clock, Friday evening, though the advance had become reduced to two and a quarter inches an hour for the previous six hours, 1832 was reached, and still advancing. In front of the Public Square, or Park, where the river street had been graded, the water now began to come into the Park. This was indeed a wonderful performance for the river here, and a sight the oldest inhabitants (and but few were left) had ever seen, but what made it yet more wonderful, it was advancing steadily. Saturday morning, John C. Shepard, J. M. Kerr, Chas. Carel and Samuel Vanvleck litted a skiff over the Park fence, and a skiff ride was taken inside that enclosure. Many filled bottles with water inside the enclosure and sealed them up, marking them, as mementoes of the great flood.

On Sunday morning at 10 o'clock, February 10th, the water was fifty-two inches above 1832, and reduced to a programme of an inch an hour's advance. This it continued through Sunday night. From Monday morning at 7 o'clock there was no perceptible rise until after 1 o'clock p. m., when it rose an inch, and then stood until 1 o'clock Tuesday morning, when a subsidence was noticed, and by 6 o'clock it had receded three inches. From this time on there was a gradual decline, only falling four feet up to 5 p. m., Wednesday.

in forty hours. At the water's greatest height here, which might be said to have been all day Monday, February 11, the scenes about the city were novel in the extreme. Gallipolis was a perfect island. The water between Sycamore Street, at the extreme head of town, to Mill Creek Bridge, was running with a strong current over the bank, and following the railroad track, reached the backwater by it. Only an inch or so of the top of the arch of the iron bridge over Mill Creek was out of water. The water in the Park had advanced past the music stand, in the centre of the Park, twenty-five feet toward Second Street, and George House, Joseph Rupe, Chas. Stockhoff and Charley Greenwood rode entirely around the music stand in a skiff. A line stretched from the Park Central Hotel diagonally through the Park to Capt. G. W. Cox's residence, on the river end of Court Street, showed a considerable portion of more than half the Park to be covered with water. A skiff could now pass over the Park fence for half the distance along the river front. The water crept up the graded wharf at the McClurg landing, at the foot of Locust Street, and took that street, passing the court-house at the depth of three inches, to Capt. J. H. Evans's building, at the corner of Second and Locust, used as the Mayor's office, and boards had to be laid down on bricks above the water for pedestrians crossing Locust on the north side of Second. The water took the gutters on Second at this corner, and ran deep enough, at the alley behind the court-house, opening on Second, for a skiff; and indeed a youngster, for our especial gratification, pushed a large john-boat to the mouth of this alley, on Second. It went yet further up the gutters, meeting in front of A. Vance's residence the water that followed the gutters from the river at the foot of Cedar Street and that had taken down Second. At the foot of Spruce Street it followed the railroad track to between Second and Third, and made it impassable for pedestrians around Mollohan's corner, only lacking an inch or so of getting to his store floor. On the river front, below Court, it was on the sidewalks for a third of the square. From Chickamauga Creek, at the lower end of town, it wandered up Vine Street to Third, spreading itself three feet deep on the floor of Anchor Mills, owned by S. F. Neal. On this street and Fourth it compelled the removal of several families, and shut up the business houses of Henry Hannan, William Cook and Stephen Neal, and C. Doeping's blacksmith shop. You could take a skiff at the curb-

stone, at the foot of Third Street, and ride out Vine into Chickamauga, and rusticate over farms for many miles. The New Era, Capt. Chas. A. Clendinen's steamboat, of perhaps 100 tons burthen, did run up Chickamauga to Elza Mill's residence, four miles back of town, on the railroad, and carried supplies for the suffering to Gallipolis for a week or more. Chickamauga backed into Pine Street, and only lacked eight inches of flooding the floor of Z. Denney's store. The depot of the C., H. V. & T. R. R. had four feet nine inches of water on its floor. Between the Dufour House and the old Coleman corner, opposite, the water was two feet deep. A large barge was pushed up this street and anchored in front of J. J. Pool's residence. The Dufour House fronts on Front Street, with its rear towards the river, and is consequently as much higher on the river side as is the decline of the bank. The cellar, kitchen, dining-room and saloon are all on the bank, below the level of Front Street. These were completely inundated, and all business pertaining to them carried on in the floors which were on a level with the grade of the town. The water rushed like a torrent, four feet deep, under the county bridge over the railroad on Mill Creek. These were all strange and impressive scenes to even the oldest inhabitant, for their like had never been seen before; but in the face of all this, ninety-nine-hundredths of the city was dry and high above the flood.

W. R. White, Esq., Surveyor for the County, at our request, took his instruments and collected the following facts relative to our position here above the highest water: The first floor of the Betz Opera House, corner of Second and State Streets, above high-water mark, one foot five and three-quarter inches; first floor of the Park Central Hotel, corner of Second and State, opposite, one foot eight and one-half inches; first floor of the block owned by John Sanns, P. A. Sanns & Son and Captain James A. McClurg, on Second, fronting Park, three feet one-half inch; first floor of the Ohio Valley Bank, on Second, fronting the Park (the Shober block), three feet five and one-half inches; first floor of Fred. Dages' stove foundry, corner of Second and Grape, two feet eight inches; first floor Eureka Mills, Morgan Bros., corner of Third and Grape, seven feet five inches; first floor of the Geneva Hotel, opposite Eureka Mills, seven feet five inches; Wm. C. Miller's block, corner Third and Court Streets, five feet four inches; first floor Buckeye Mills, Lawson &

Bell, northwest end of State Street, eight feet; first floor of Union School building, corner Fourth and Locust, eight feet five and one-half inches; lowest step of Court House, between Front and Second, eight feet three and one-half inches; first floor of the M. E. Church, corner of Second and Cedar Streets, two feet five and one-half inches. The general average of the twelve points taken above, which represent neither the lowest and not the highest points in town by several feet, is five feet and one-half inch. Surveyor White says: "The foregoing points taken are a very fair average elevation of the greater portion of the city. The grade of some of the streets having been cut down from two to eight feet below the general surface, have caused slight overflows on Front or River Street, at its intersection with the cross streets; yet the buildings are almost all from three to six feet above the highest marks of February 11, 1884—they having been built before the grading was done, and the lots on which they stand all being higher than the streets. Thus it will be seen that it would have taken at least five feet above the highest mark to have caused any damage." We might add, in this connection, that though no part of the plateau of the city is on a hill or hillside, yet there is a very large portion of the city in upper, or east end, where the level of the street is much higher than any point taken. It is therefore seen by the reader that when we say that Gallipolis is a "high and dry" town, above the highest water ever known, it is no idle boast, but a literal fact, of which we should be justly proud. The exact low-water mark at this point is not known, and the stage of the river at this time prevents its ascertainment; but there are marks here that furnish as reliable a record of the height of one flood above another as can be found along the river. These are the stone steps leading from the top of the bank or level of the yard of Capt. Joseph W. DeVacht, down to nearly low-water mark. They were laid in 1821, by Col. Luther Shepard, assisted by Stephen Curry (the latter yet living), and have never been moved. They are as plumb and square as the day they were laid, the bank having never slipped nor changed so as to disturb them. The mark of 1832 was cut by Grandfather De Vacht, father of "Uncle Joe," as he is familiarly called by all who know the genial and clever old gentleman, and the 1847 mark was cut in the step by "Uncle Joe's" brother-in-law, the late Julius Regnier, father of Captain Charles Regnier, druggist, of this city. The marks of 1883,

and 1884 were cut by Captain Regnier himself, and every other one by Captain Joseph W. De Vacht, or "Uncle Joe." The following is the record on these steps:

	<i>Ft.</i>	<i>In.</i>
1852 over 1875.....	2	9½
1852 over 1883.....		4½
1847 over 1852.....		8½
1832 over 1847.....	1	3
1847 over 1883.....		11½
1832 over 1883.....	2	1½
1884 over 1832.....	6	3

A silver plate will be placed in these steps, to mark the water of 1884.

Making 1884 now the standard, we deduce the following from the above:

	<i>Ft.</i>	<i>In.</i>
1884 over 1832.....	6	3
1884 over 1847.....	7	5
1884 over 1852.....	8	
1884 over 1865.....	11	8
1884 over 1875.....	10	9½
1884 over 1883.....	8	4½

Assuming that there were sixty-five feet of water in the channel here in 1832, it is easy to ascertain the depth in each year named, and gives for 1884 a depth or heighth of seventy-one feet three inches, which cannot be much out of the way, and compares well with other points along the river, as published by them. And when it is considered that Gallipolis can stand, without damage worthy of note, yet another and additional five feet on top of this, it will impress itself at once upon the mind of the reader that we occupy the most elevated situation of any town of note in the Ohio Valley.

WORK OF THE RELIEF COMMITTEE OF GALLIPOLIS, O.

[PREPARED BY THEO. N. WILSON.]

The rapid rise of the waters of the Ohio gave a startling alarm to the inhabitants of Gallipolis to "be up and doing;" to be prepared in the event of the old French city becoming inundated. Very little fear was entertained for Gallipolis proper, however, as "ye oldest inhabitant" still held absolute sway in having the high water mark of 1832 nearly two feet above the highest level of last year's flood. Tales of the suffering of the towns and cities above created deep sympathy in the hearts of our citizens, and it was resolved, by one and all, that we should succor those who were unfortunate, and that we, who had heretofore surveyed from our high position the misery of those around us, should now step down and go to the relief of our friends who had been driven from their homes by the angry floods.

On Saturday, February 9, the Board of Trade held a called meeting, at which Messrs. Louis Baer, P. A. Sanns, and Silas Brosius were appointed a committee to act, in conjunction with J. M. Alexander, Mayor of the city, "to raise funds for the relief of the flood sufferers, and to take such other necessary steps as the emergency requires." To this committee Messrs. W. G. Fuller and William Kling, members of the City Council, were added by the Board of Trade.

On Monday, February 11, W. G. Fuller, President of the City Council, called a meeting of the Council "to consider their duty in the emergency of the flood now upon us." The first action of the meeting was to appoint Councilmen A. J. Green and M. Mollohan to act with the committee selected by the Board of Trade.

The Relief Committee, now being officially constituted, proceeded to organize by the election of A. J. Green as chairman, and Louis Baer as secretary and treasurer. The next act was to charter the steamer New Era, to carry supplies to needy points above. Previous to this four public-spirited gentlemen, Messrs. W. H. Harvey, J. Frank Morgan, D. H. Baldrige, and S. A. Dunbar, had, on their own account and risk, chartered the steamer Jim Montgomery for the same purpose, and made a trip up the river as far as Pomeroy, giving food to those inundated. The supplies furnished by these gentlemen had been purchased from funds contributed by citizens of Gallipolis. Messrs. C. Fred Henking and S. H. Olmsted, who had, on Saturday, been appointed a committee to find out the condition of sufferers at Middleport, Pomeroy, and other towns, reported their condition "most horrible." The gentlemen on the Jim Montgomery verified this statement, and urged the necessity of continued relief for the poor sufferers. Messrs. A. J. Green and E. S. Aleshire were then appointed, to take charge of the steamer Montgomery and proceed up the river with a full load of provisions. Mr. Green, having accepted this position, tendered his resignation as Chairman of the Relief Committee, which was accepted. Colonel W. G. Fuller was elected to the vacancy, and here it is proper to record the fact that much is due to his executive ability, cool judgment, and gentlemanly deportment, that the Relief Committee of Gallipolis was enabled to do so much for the alleviation of suffering in this section of the Ohio Valley. From this date (February 11), Colonel Fuller remained at its head, devoting much of his time, and directing its business in harmony with all. In this he was ably assisted by the entire committee, which now consisted of Louis Baer, P. A. Sanns, Silas Brosius, W. G. Fuller and William Kling, appointed by the Board of Trade; His Honor, J. M. Alexander, Mayor, and A. J. Green and M. Mollohan, appointed by the City Council. The committee were daily in receipt of many telegrams and letters from abroad, advising donations of money, food and clothing for the use of the flood sufferers. For over three weeks abundant supplies were shipped over the Columbus, Hocking Valley & Toledo Railway, sometimes as many as seven car loads on a single day. These supplies were received into warehouses, where they were assorted and then shipped on steamers chartered by the committee, to towns up and down the river, from Marietta to Portsmouth, a distance of one hundred and eighty miles. At one time the committee had five boats under charter. A strict account of the receipts and distribution of all goods was kept at the different depots, and a full official report will be found in this volume. The receipts became so large, and poured in so rapidly that four large warerooms were rented to store them. Depot No. 1 was at first used for all classes of supplies, and was under the personal superintendence of Silas Brosius, assisted by C. H. Schaefer, C. H. McCormick, and Chas. Coverston.

Depot No. 2 was opened on February 13. This was intended principally for meat, flour and other provisions, and was placed in charge of Theo. N. Wilson and Charles Joachim, assisted by Chas. Parsons, O. W. Jay and John Franklin. Very large supplies of clothing and bedding were coming in rapidly, and the committee were obliged to open Depots Nos. 3 and 4. These were under

the management of John T. Halliday and W. B. Trump, assisted by W. R. Morgan, John L. Guy, D. S. Trobridge, Henry Skinner, and B. F. Jolley. Mrs. Wm. Jeffers, Mrs. W. R. Morgan, Mrs. A. J. Carter, Miss H. U. Maxon, Mrs. Miles, and Mrs. Dr. Sanns, also devoted much time to this department, and their services were of great benefit.

Many attempts were made to obtain supplies from the depots by parties who were not flood sufferers, and doubtless the managers were imposed upon in some instances, but not so much as has been reported. Every possible precaution was taken to prevent imposition; committees were formed at all the towns between Marietta and Portsmouth, and it was only upon requisitions and orders from these committees that provisions and clothing were furnished. "It were better that ten unworthy persons should be supplied, than to have one needy person overlooked," was the remark made by more than one individual.

Through the medium of the chartered steamers, over *six thousand* packages were distributed in our district; *twenty-six hundred* were sent out by the local packers, and *eleven hundred and eighty-eight* orders were filled at the depots. The orders filled at the depots were of various amounts, according to the size and need of the families, but would probably average a week's supply for six persons, and generally consisted of a twenty-five pound sack of flour, eight pounds meat, two pounds coffee, two pounds sugar, two pounds rice, two pounds hominy, dried and canned fruits, tea, baking powder, soap, candles, matches, &c., with clothing and bedding as required. As a rule, those relieved were thankful, though, of course, among so many, there would be an occasional grumbler, and some of the demands made upon the managers were amusing. One lady wanted her stock of jellies and preserves replenished, while another mourned the ruin of her carpet, and thought a new one should be given her. These, however, were exceptional cases.

Several gentlemen from abroad visited our city during the flood, and expressed themselves as highly pleased at the manner in which the General Committee transacted the vast amount of business devolving upon it. Sixty-five car loads of miscellaneous supplies were received here. All of this was handled with despatch and regularity. Sub-committees to facilitate the work were formed as follows:

No. 1.—Silas Brosius, W. G. Brading and Chris. Schaefer; to take charge of all the provisions and commissary stores, and order same to be loaded on the relief boats.

No. 2.—John T. Halliday and W. B. Trump; to take charge of clothing, tents, boots and shoes, and dry goods generally, and ship the same on the relief boats.

No. 3.—P. A. Sanns, Wm. Kling and S. A. Dunbar; to have charge of the river transportation, charter boats, and discharge same when necessary.

No. 4.—Frank Halliday, James McClurg and W. H. McCormick; to furnish transportation for the speedy removal of goods upon arrival to the delivery boats or to the commissary depots.

No. 5.—C. H. McCormick, W. G. Brading and C. H. Schaefer; to judge upon the merits of local applications for relief.

No. 6.—W. G. Fuller, J. T. Halliday and J. M. Alexander; to receive and decide upon foreign applications for relief.

No. 7.—W. G. Fuller, J. T. Halliday and A. J. Green; to direct the relief steamers where to go after being loaded.

The following steamers were chartered by the Relief Committee of Gallipolis: Nora Belle, Claribell, New Era, B. T. Enos, Champion, Chesapeake, and Lizzie Johnston. These steamers were under the personal charge of the following gentlemen: C. F. Henking, S. H. Olmsted, W. H. Harvey, J. F. Morgan, S. A. Dunbar, D. H. Baldrige, A. J. Green, E. S. Aleshire, M. Mollohan, A. W. Kerns, J. J. Maxon, W. H. Andrews, J. T. Hampton, J. W. Gardner and J. D. Olmsted. Possibly others may have been associated with these gentlemen; if so, we have not their names.

The General Committee received many demands for fuel and cattle feed. Upon making known these wants two car loads of ear corn were contributed by citizens of Groveport and Canal Winchester, and three car loads of coal were donated by the Columbus Relief Committee. The corn was placed in the hands of Chas. D. Bailey and Wm. Cherington for distribution, and J. W. Gardner took charge of the coal. The Relief Committee also purchased some four thousand bushels of coal, and Mr. Gardner chartered the steamer *New Era* to distribute same, which he did in a most effectual manner. Upon reference to the official report it will be seen the total number of packages donated to and purchased by the Committee amounted to 8,749, and consisted of clothing, provisions, etc. In addition to this there was received 717 bushels of corn and 5,340 bushels of coal.

Before closing this short sketch of the work of the Gallipolis Relief Committee, it is but right to note the liberality of several corporations toward the flood sufferers. The Columbus, Hocking Valley & Toledo Railway, although heavy losers by the high water, transported sixty-five car loads of supplies, free of charge; Adams Express Company forwarded a large amount of freight upon the same generous terms, and the Western Union Telegraph Company transacted all relief business gratis. During the first few days of the flood, the owners of the steamboats lying here tendered the free use of their boats to the sufferers above and below the city, and much property was saved by them. Notably among these liberal gentlemen were the Captains and owners of the steam ferry *Champion*, and steamers *Nora Belle*, *New Era* and *Jim Montgomery*. The *Chesapeake*, *Claribell*, *B. T. Enos*, *Boone* and *Luella* also assisted the Committee by free transportation of supplies. The tow-boat *Veteran No. 2* tendered her barges for the use of persons who had been driven from their homes.

For a few days the trains on our road could not come into Gallipolis, and were obliged to stop at Mills Station, some four miles back of the city, where P. B. Pritchett, Chief of the Gallipolis Fire Department, assisted by the firemen, loaded the supplies upon the steamer *New Era*, and thus the goods were brought in. The Fire Brigade deserve great credit for their arduous work. It is a gratifying fact that all the people of Gallipolis, with the exception of two or three, gave of their means and labor, and entered heart and soul into the good work of relieving their distressed brothers. At an early meeting of the Relief Committee it was resolved, by a unanimous vote, that no member of the Committee, or of any of the sub-committees, should receive pay for any work they might do and this rule was rigidly adhered to. The work of a committeeman was not an enviable position. From morning till late at night, for three weeks, it was hard work; goods were pouring in from abroad and these required looking after; they were to be assorted and distributed. Many times a relief boat, returning from a trip during the night, the Committee in charge would report so much suffering that those in charge of the depots would be aroused from their beds, to load the steamer, and by morning she would be on her way to cheer the desponding hearts of the flood-stricken people.

The following telegrams and letters will show what the outside world has done "for sweet charity's sake:"

COLUMBUS, OHIO, February 12th. 1884.

W. G. Fuller, *Chairman Relief Committee, Galipolis, O.*:—Our people are coming forward with subscriptions in money, clothing and food most fully; we sent full car of provisions this morning, and another car load clothing and provisions this afternoon, forwarded from Logan. First car load now at Mills Station.

M. M. GREENE.

CLEVELAND, OHIO, February 12th, 1884.

Board of Trade, Gallipolis, O. :—Shipped your Relief Committee car of bread and provisions, per American Express, this A. M.

BOARD OF TRADE OF CLEVELAND.

LANCASTER, OHIO, February 12th, 1884.

Mayor Gallipolis, O. :—Have transportation at Kerrs for six tons supplies this P. M. Left Columbus 8 A. M. E. A. FITCH.

LANCASTER, OHIO, February 10th, 1884.

Mayor Gallipolis :—Have sent you bread and meat by passenger train this morning. Will repeat to-morrow morning. S. W. RAINEY, Mayor.

XENIA, OHIO, February 12th, 1884.

Allemon & Henking, Gallipolis :—Give \$50 in provisions to late sufferers and charge same to us. MARINE POWDER COMPANY.

CANAL WINCHESTER, OHIO, February 12th, 1884.

E. A. Fitch, Gallipolis :—Will send to-morrow morning full car load bread, boiled hams and uncooked provisions, bedding and clothing, and more to follow soon. O. P. CHANEY.

MANSFIELD, OHIO, February 12th, 1884.

George House, Gallipolis :—Have your Relief Committee advise what is most needed to supply immediate wants. L. J. BONAR.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, February 11th, 1884.

Allemon & Henking, Gallipolis :—Public meeting will be held to night to assist flood sufferers. W. Y. MILES.

LOGAN, OHIO, February 12th, 1884.

Mayor Gallipolis and Relief Committee :—Our people have contributed two car loads provisions to-day. Have boats ready to receive when train arrives. G. W. BREHM, Mayor.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, February 11th, 1884.

Mayor and President City Council, Gallipolis :—Meeting of citizens at Columbus now being held. We will send to-morrow by passenger train 2,900 loaves bread, 2,500 pounds cooked hams, 2,500 pounds uncooked hams, 1 barrel cooked pork, 1 barrel butter, 1 barrel coffee, besides donations from Logan, McArthur, and other towns. I stated to the meeting that in my judgment supplies should go forward daily until the people that could be reached were all cared for, which would be for many days and perhaps weeks. Our road will carry supplies for the suffering free. You will need to arrange for transfer from Kerrs for several tons of provisions on arrival of our train, Tuesday afternoon, with Chairman of Committee appointed, who is P. W. Huntington, to whom I should suggest you would inform by telegraph the things most wanted, as they may be able to procure them here quicker than you can elsewhere.

M. M. GREENE.

LANCASTER, OHIO, February 13th, 1884.

E. A. Fitch, Gallipolis :—Have sent flour this morning. Will send more to-morrow morning. JOHN D. MARTIN.

CANAL DOVER, OHIO, February 13th, 1884.

E. A. Fitch :—Sent 13 barrels flour this A. M. Will send 10 barrels this evening; will also start another car provisions in A. M. COMMITTEE.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, February 13th, 1884.

W. G. Fuller, Gallipolis :—You will have at least two car loads on No. 1 to-day. Will have full car from Cleveland to-day that will go forward on No. 3 this afternoon. Our people are fully aroused, and are making under-clothing for women and children. All have been advised to continue the good work until advice that wants are supplied.

M. M. GREENE.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, February 13th, 1884.

E. A. Fitch :—Children's clothing and flour shipped this P. M., other provisions also. Keep me posted as to what you want.

P. W. HUNTINGTON.

MIDDLETON, OHIO, February 13th, 1884.

Mayor of Gallipolis :—How can we get provisions to you? Answer quick.

REV. E. A. INCE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 13th, 1884.

Mayor of Gallipolis :—You are authorized to purchase and distribute subsistence stores, clothing, and other necessary articles to persons made destitute by the flood, within your reach, to an amount not exceeding \$1,000. Careful records of purchases should be kept to enable Department officers to adjust accounts when they can be sent. You will be required to give officers your receipts for stores, and act as agent for this department for the distribution. Please advise me by wire the number of destitute, and whether purchases can be made in your locality.

ROBT. T. LINCOLN, Sec'y of War.

[The above amount was afterwards increased by the Secretary of War to \$16,000.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 13th.

Hon. J. M. Alexander, Mayor Gallipolis, O. :—I am glad to hear of the work you are doing from your city, and your own action is perfectly satisfactory. All that will be finally needed will be your receipt to the proper army officer for the supplies for which he will pay. I will not ask for the details of the further distribution of them. You are authorized to purchase additional supplies of the same character as mentioned in my first dispatch, to the extent of \$5,000. I will be glad to be advised by you from time to time of the situation.

ROBERT T. LINCOLN,

Secretary of War.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 15th.

Mayor Gallipolis :—Your telegram of this date received. I am much gratified at statement of work being done from your city. In addition to former amounts authorized to you, you are authorized to expend \$5,000 for the relief of those made destitute by the flood.

ROBERT T. LINCOLN,

Secretary of War.

COLUMBUS, O., February 13th.

E. S. Aleshire, Gallipolis, Ohio :—McIntyre & Wardwell, of New York city, send sympathy and \$50, which I give to the Relief Committee here.

A. W. THURMAN.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., February 12th.

Mayor Gallipolis :—Draw on us for \$1,000 for relief of suffering at Middleport, Point Pleasant, and neighboring places.

DREXEL & Co.,

Treas. Western Flood Relief Funds.

GENOA, O., February 14.

Mayor Gallipolis :—What kind of cooked rations are your people most in need of? Our people are donating liberally. Answer quick.

F. O. WYMAN, Chairman Relief Committee.

CLEVELAND, February 14th.

Chairman Relief Committee:—Sent you yesterday one car provisions, and will send another car provisions, blankets, clothing, and shoes for children to-night. What points in your vicinity are most needy, and what facilities have you for distributing supplies? Do you need women's clothing? Tell me what supplies are most needy. Answer at once.

X. X. CRUM,

Sec'y Relief Com. of Board of Trade.

NEW YORK, February 12th.

J. M. Alexander, Mayor Gallipolis:—Draw on H. C. Maddox, 87 Front St., Treasurer Relief Committee of Coffee and Importers' and Grocers' Exchange, for \$250. Have sent Portsmouth \$300 and Pomeroy \$500. Send names of Mayors or responsible parties most in need of help.

A. WAKEMAN, Chairman.

BALTIMORE, MD., February 14.

J. M. Alexander, Mayor Gallipolis:—I shipped you yesterday a lot of blankets and \$50 cash.

WM. H. LOVE, Secretary.

GREENFIELD, O., February 15.

Prof. Hard, Gallipolis:—We ship you fifteen mattresses for the sufferers, and hope to send you more. See that they are given where most needed. The friend of man is the friend of God.

TANK KEE.

[Tank Kee, the celebrated Chinese lecturer, made still further shipments of mattresses, flour, and medicines.]

NEWARK, O., February 16.

To the Hon. Mayor, Gallipolis:—We have this day turned over to our Relief Committee, for Ohio River sufferers, one good cooking stove, packed and addressed to you. We wish that you will be so kind and turn the same over to some good and poor family that is in need of it. We would very much like to hear of the receipt of this stove, and with our sympathy, we are respectfully,

MOSER & WEHRLE.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., February 14.

J. M. Alexander:—Draw on us for \$2,000, additional, for relief of flood sufferers in your vicinity.

DREXEL & Co.,

Treas. Western Relief Fund.

CATSKILL, N. Y., February 15.

Dear Sir:—Enclosed find check for \$25, which please place where it will do the most good.

J. A. CARTER.

LOGAN, O., February 14.

John L. Vance:—Logan will give house room and take care of one hundred and more of your destitute people. Will you send them, and when?

LEWIS GREEN,

J. M. FLOYD,

GEORGE BREHM,

Relief Committee.

LOGAN, O., February 14.

John L. Vance:—Mr. Houston, of the furniture company, tenders their entire building—heated by steam—with three hundred cots, to our committee, and reports accommodation proffered for five hundred. Car provisions from Logan sent to-night; more to follow.

LEWIS GREEN, Relief Committee.

BALTIMORE, MD., February 14.

J. M. Alexander, Mayor:—Have sent you to-day, via B. & O. express, \$150.

WM. H. LOVERI G.

BOSTON, MASS., February 14.

Mayor Gallipolis.:—Draw on S. F. Wilkins, cashier Howard National Bank, for \$1,000.

A. P. MARTIN, Mayor Boston.

NEW YORK, February 14.

Hon. J. M. Alexander, Mayor Gallipolis.:—I have received your telegram of the 13th. Our exchanges have organized to-day for more effective work. I hereby authorize you to draw on me at sight for \$2,000.

FRANKLIN EDSON, Mayor.

CARROLL, O., February 14.

Relief Committee, Gallipolis.:—We send you by train No. 1 four wagon loads of provisions, etc. Will you see that it is properly distributed? We sent you some provisions on Wednesday, marked from Carroll; also sent you 500 loaves of bread from Lancaster. Did you get it? Answer.

S. M. BRIGHT.

URBANA, O., February 14.

Relief Committee, Gallipolis.:—Have sent, per express, a number of boxes and barrels, containing bedding and clothing. More to follow.

T. G. KELLER, Sec'y.

URBANA, O., February 16.

Chairman Relief Committee, Gallipolis.:—We ship you to-day (Adams Express), four boxes meat, two barrels coffee and chest tea, one box groceries, seven boxes clothing and bedding, two boxes new goods, made by ladies here. More to come.

C. H. GAUSHEN, Chairman Relief Com.

BALTIMORE, February 15.

To Mayor Gallipolis.:—Draw on me for benefit of sufferers by flood, for \$750.

J. R. BLAND, Secretary.

BALTIMORE, February 15.

Mayor Gallipolis.:—Draw on us for \$187 for relief of sufferers. This is in addition to the \$200 sent to-day.

FERDINAND D. LATROBE.

ORANGE, N. J., February 13.

Mayor Gallipolis.:—Enclosed please find my check for \$5, for benefit of sufferers by the flood.

THEO. F. SEWARD.

LEWISTOWN, PENN., February 14.

Hutchinson & Baldrige, Gallipolis.:—Please pay \$25 to the Relief Committee of Gallipolis, and charge to our account.

WM. MANN, JR., & Co.

XENIA, O., February 14.

Kerr Bros., Gallipolis.:—Gentlemen, I hand you my check for \$5, towards assisting the distressed of your vicinity. My mite is small, but I send the same amount to many other river towns.

J. THOMAS HARBINE.

ORANGE, N. J., February 13.

J. M. Alexander, Mayor.—Dear Sir: A box from Grace Church, Orange, has been sent to Gallipolis, directed to you, by the ladies of the Parish, who had ascertained your name, but did not know that of the pastor of the Episcopal Church, who they wish to distribute the articles of relief to sufferers from the flood. Will you be good enough to notify Rev. Moncure of the arrival of the box, and let him have the distribution thereof.

Yours, for the ladies of Grace Church,

A. SCHUYLER, Rector.

BALTIMORE, February 15.
Mayor Gallipolis:—Expend \$200 for relief of sufferers, and draw on me for amount.
 FERDINAND O. LATROBE, Mayor of Baltimore.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., February 15.
Hon. J. M. Alexander, Gallipolis:—Brooklyn sends to day, through me, \$219, in response to your dispatch.
 SETH LOW, Mayor.

NEW YORK, February 15.
J. M. Alexander, Mayor Gallipolis:—I send you to-day, by telegram, \$10.
 RANDOLPH BRANDT.

NORWICH, CONN., February 16th, 1884.
Hon. J. M. Alexander, Mayor Gallipolis:—Enclosed please find check for \$200, a contribution from one of our citizens to assist you in your great want, and hoping I may have the pleasure of adding more in a few days.
 H. H. OSGOOD.

LONDON, N. H., February 16th, 1884.
Mayor Gallipolis:—I enclose \$5 to be applied at your discretion to the relief of sufferers from flood in your section.
 P. S. JOHN.

NEW YORK, February 16th, 1884.
Union Trust Company:—Pay to the order of J. M. Alexander, Mayor, \$200.
 LAURA A. DELANO, for the sufferers by the flood.

CONCORD, N. H., February 18th, 1884.
Mayor Alexander, Gallipolis:—Draw on me for \$200, given by citizens of Concord, for your Relief Fund.
 EDGAR H. WOODMAN, Mayor.

MIDDLETOWN, OHIO, February 16th, 1884.
Mayor Alexander, Gallipolis:—Twenty-nine barrels provisions were shipped to your address yesterday, and more to follow.
 REV. E. A. INCE.

BOSTON, February 16th, 1884.
J. M. Alexander, Mayor:—Have ordered shipped from New York to-day, by American Express, two cases of blankets from funds subscribed by Boston wool merchants for relief of suffering. For the Committee.
 A. A. BLANCHARD, Treasurer.

WEST LIBERTY, OHIO, February 14th, 1884.
To the Hon. Mayor Gallipolis, O.—Dear Sir:—Enclosed please find P. O. order for \$11.88, which you will please hand to the Relief Committee for the suffering in your vicinity. It is the offering of the school children of this place. May God bless you all, is their prayer. Very respectfully.
 R. W. LAWRENCE, Supt.

HARTFORD, CONN., February 16, 1884.
Mayor Gallipolis:—Draw on me for \$250.
 W. G. BULKLEY, Mayor.

RICHMOND, VA., February 18th, 1884.
E. S. Aleshire, Gallipolis:—If we send car load supplies to Huntington, will your Relief Committee send some one to receive and distribute it among the flood sufferers along the Ohio River, between Huntington and Pomeroy, where most needed.
 B. S. FITCH
 C. H. SIMPSON.

This dispatch was answered as follows: Yes; will gladly do it. Daily needed.
 E. S. ALESHIRE.

NEW YORK, February 18th, 1884.

J. M. Alexander, Gallipolis :—Draw on us for \$50. ARBUCKLE BROS.

CHICKOPEE, MASS., February 14th, 1884.

Mayor Gallipolis :—Herewith find enclosed bank check for \$10, which I hope may be placed where it will do the most good. JOHN W. POST.RECTORY ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,
BALTIMORE, February 19, 1884. }*J. M. Alexander, Mayor Gallipolis* :—I have to-day forwarded by B. & O. R. R., to your address, 2 boxes clothing, sent by members of my congregation, for distribution among the sufferers by the recent flood, trusting that they may be useful. I am sincerely yours, J. J. B. HODGES, Rector.

HOOSICK FALLS, N. Y., February 20th, 1884.

Messrs. Jas. Vanden & Son, Gallipolis, O.—Gentlemen :—We take pleasure in handing you herewith draft for \$50, which please accept as our contribution toward the relief of the sufferers by the recent flood in your district.

We gather from the newspapers that the flood is receding, and we trust that the suffering is being rapidly allayed.

Sympathizing most deeply with your people in the calamity which has overtaken them, we remain, Very truly yours,

WALTER A. WOOD, Pres't Mowing and Reaper Machine Co.

By D. H. VALENTINE.

TERRY VILLAGE, MAINE, February 16th, 1884.

Mayor Gallipolis :—Enclosed find \$5 to aid sufferers by the flood. I know of no one near who is collecting anything, and this address I find in a newspaper.

Yours truly, EMMA E. FOSTER.

RICHBURG, N. Y., February 18th, 1884.

Hon. J. M. Alexander, Gallipolis :—Enclosed find draft for \$51.55, raised by subscription for benefit of flood sufferers. We also send a box of clothing to your address.

MRS. J. A. LYON,

Richburg, Allegheny Co., N. Y.

BALTIMORE, MD., February 20.

J. M. Alexander, Mayor Gallipolis :—Draw on me for relief of sufferers by flood for an additional sum of \$400. JOHN R. BLAND,

Merchants' and Manufacturers' Association.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., February 19.

Hon. J. M. Alexander, Mayor Gallipolis :—Herewith find check for \$107.99, being received by the Mayor of Brooklyn to-day, for sufferers by the flood in your neighborhood. Very truly, FRANKLIN ALLEN.

DELAWARE, February 12.

Fuller, Hutsinpillar & Co., Gallipolis :—Tell your Relief Committee to draw on us for \$50. DELAWARE CHAIR CO.DUEBER WATCH CASE COMPANY, }
NEWPORT, KY., February 22. }*Jules Roberts, Gallipolis* :—I enclose check for \$100, part of the sum collected by us for relief of the flood sufferers. Please divide this among those in need in your city if possible. Use it for provisions, clothing, or fuel.

JOHN C. DUEBER.

[This was turned over to the Relief Committee here, who appointed Mr. Roberts and John L. Guy a committee to see that it was properly distributed.]

NEWPORT, KY., February 22.

Mrs. William Shober, Gallipolis:—Inclose check for \$100 of Jewelers' Relief Fund, collected by me, which please distribute among the flood sufferers of your city. If possible, use it for food, clothing, or fuel.

JOHN C. DUEBER.

[This, also, was turned over to the Relief Committee, who appointed Mrs. Shober and Wm. Kling to see to its proper distribution.]

NEW YORK, February 23.

John A. Hamilton, Cashier, Gallipolis:—We credit you \$150, for use of flood sufferers.

WINSLOW, LANIER & Co.

Accompanying the following was a check for \$50:

NEW YORK, February 19.

C. Fred. Henking, Esq., Gallipolis, O.:—Dear Sir: We have received the paper, and as the writer has just returned from a trip to the Rocky Mountains, can realize, somewhat, the terrible ordeal through which your people are passing. We have heard the cry from other points on the river, and were only too glad that we had been blessed to be able to help. Would do more but for that. With our best regards,

Truly,

DAN TALMAGE'S SONS.

These are only a very small portion of the dispatches received; to publish all would fill a large volume.

The following clipping from the *Middleport Republican*, and letter from the Chairman of the Philadelphia Relief Committee, testify that the work of our committee was fully appreciated:

"GALLIPOLIS TO THE RESCUE.—Gallipolis is high and dry, above the highest floods, and let us hope her good citizens may always be above the wave of adversity. On Monday afternoon Councilman John Grogan informed us that citizens of Gallipolis, hearing of our distress, had sent to Middleport's suffering citizens, a boat load of cooked provisions, crackers, cheese, hams, potatoes, sacks of flour, etc., etc. These are gifts that are more than welcome in this, the hour of our extreme necessity. Best of all, another boat load of the same kind was to follow in about three hours. Mr. Grogan authorizes us, in behalf of the Mayor, Council, and our suffering citizens, to return heartfelt thanks for this liberal gift from the citizens of our sister city. 'A touch of sorrow makes the whole world kin.' The same boat brought the welcome news that Gallipolis would care for one thousand of our people. High water, thank the Lord, cannot drown sympathy."

OFFICE OF JOSHUA L. BAILEY & Co., }
PHILADELPHIA, March 21, 1884. }

Hon. J. M. Alexander, Mayor, Gallipolis, Ohio:

MY DEAR SIR:—I am extremely obliged for your favor of the 20th, giving information of great interest and value to our committee. You have indeed done well for Syracuse. It is becoming in us to acknowledge the untiring zeal and fidelity, as well as the great good judgment shown by yourself and your colleagues of the Gallipolis committee, in your care of the sufferers by the flood, and in the distribution of funds and supplies entrusted to your hands.

Our committee has recently made the following appropriations, "to aid in rebuilding or restoring the wrecked dwellings of such people as in the judgment of the local committee might be most in need of such assistance—widows, the aged, and the sick, being first considered"—viz:

New Richmond, O., \$1,000; Jeffersonville, Ind., \$1,000; Lawrenceburg, Ind., \$1,000; Catlettsburg, Ky., \$500; Augusta, Ky., \$500; Guyandotte, W. Va., \$500; Shawneetown, Ill., \$500; Zanesville, O., \$500; total, \$5,500, and \$330 of an unexpended balance at Pomeroy will be expended in the same way.

We notice with approbation that you contemplate a like appropriation of the unexpended funds in your hands. It will be a great help to many whose greatest loss has been in the destruction of their homes.

Yours truly,

JOSHUA L. BAILEY,
Chairman Relief Committee.

MARIETTA, O., March 8, 1884.

Col. W. G. Fuller, Chairman Gallipolis Relief Committee:

Your favor of 5th inst. came duly to hand. Accept kindest thanks. Capt. Aleshire passed up this evening. We thank you for calling his attention to our case. We are now in every way supplied. * * * * *

The two trips of Steamer Chesapeake, under your directions, were of great advantage, and aided us and other points, especially Harmar, O., and Williamsport, W. Va., very much. * * * * * Please accept for yourself and your co-laborers the kindest thanks of the citizens of Marietta for your very kind favors.

Very respectfully,

F. J. CUTTER,
Sec'y-Treas. Relief Committee.

Many other equally kind references to the committee might be given, but it is not necessary. The work done shows for itself in the following official report and tabular statements:

GALLIPOLIS, OHIO, March 25, 1884.

The Relief Committee of this city takes great pleasure in submitting to the public the accompanying reports and statements of the work done here.

The labor devolving upon us has been one of love and mercy, and we are glad that our situation has allowed us to act as distributing agents for the munificent donations of money, provisions and clothing contributed by the kind hearts of individuals, the liberality of corporations, and of our State and National Governments.

To one and all we present, on behalf of the sufferers in this large district, comprising one hundred and eighty miles of the Ohio River, their hearty thanks for the noble generosity shown.

W. G. FULLER, Chairman.

LOUIS BAER, Secretary.

GALLIPOLIS, OHIO, March 20, 1884.

To the Relief Committee, Gallipolis, Ohio:

GENTS:—Accompanying this find statements of the receipts and distribution of donations to and purchases by your committee, with explanatory letter of same.

Yours respectfully,

S. BROSIUS,
W. G. BRADING,
C. H. SHAEFFER,
Committee No. 1.
JOHN T. HALLIDAY,
Committee No. 2.

RELIEF COMMITTEE ROOMS,
GALLIPOLIS, OHIO, March 15, 1884. }

W. G. Fuller, Esq., Chairman, Gallipolis, Ohio:

SIR:—Having been appointed to prepare statements of the receipts and distribution of the supplies donated to, and purchased by your committee, I have now the honor to submit the same herewith. Sheet No. 1 gives the number of packages, and the different classes of goods transported over the Columbus, Hocking Valley & Toledo Railway from different points; the donations from

Richmond, Va.; Cincinnati, O., and from this city, and a statement of the supplies purchased from the Government and Relief Funds. I find it impossible to give credit to all the cities from which supplies came, but notice many of them were marked from Cleveland, Columbus, Urbana, Marysville, Logan, Lancaster, Groveport, Canal Winchester, Athens, McArthur, etc. Many packages were marked especially for individuals living at different towns upon the Ohio River, and these were promptly forwarded as addressed. The total number of packages (not including bushels of corn or coal), received from all sources, amounted to 8,749. We shipped on chartered steamers 6,111 packages; shipped on local packets, 2,622 packages; orders filled at depots, 1,188 packages, making in all 9,921 packages.

The disparity in the number of packages received and those delivered is occasioned by unpacking large cases, tierces, etc., and putting the contents in smaller boxes and bundles, to fill requisitions and orders.

Sheet No. 2 shows the receipts classified and condensed.

No. 3 is a statement of the shipments upon the boats chartered by the Central Committee, which shipments were distributed at different points above and below here. I had detailed reports of some of the committees in charge of the distribution, but not of all, so can only give the total amounts supplied them when leaving this port.

No. 4 gives the number of individual orders filled each day at the clothing and provision depots. These orders were given by the committees organized at the smaller towns and settlements above and below, upon both sides of the Ohio, and on the Kanawha River, but in near proximity to Gallipolis, and supplies were issued to the applicants who presented them to the depots here. This plan was found more practicable than to send large quantities of clothing and provisions to such committees for distribution.

No. 5 shows the amount of goods given out for labor, \$98.

No. 6 is J. W. Gardner's report of his distribution of coal at different points upon the river, 4,140 bushels. In addition to this, the Central Committee gave out 1,200 bushels, making a total of 5,340 bushels.

No. 7 is the corn report of Wm. Cherrington and E. S. Aleshire, showing 717 bushels received and distributed.

No. 8 gives the daily shipments on our local packets upon requisitions and orders, amounting to 2,622 packages.

Respectfully submitted,

THEO. N. WILSON.

No. 1.

GOODS RECEIVED FROM C., H. V. & T. R. R.

Meats, 115½ barrels, 78 boxes; bread, 205 barrels, 182 boxes; potatoes, 827 barrels, 365 bags, 29 boxes; flour, 106 barrels, 651 quarter-sacks, 1,981 eighth-sacks; rice, 2 barrels; hominy, 29 barrels, 40 sacks; canned goods, 92 boxes; coffee, 39 boxes, 5 barrels; miscellaneous, 114 boxes, 56 barrels, 16 packages; provisions, 84 barrels, 134 packages; cheese, 37 boxes; corn meal, 5 barrels, 152 12-lb. sacks, 38 6-lb. sacks; crackers, 259 barrels, 29 boxes; beans, 39 barrels, 13 sacks; stoves, 3; tea, 6 boxes; sugar, 6½ barrels; molasses, 1 keg; soap, 2 boxes; clothing, 600 boxes, 130 barrels, 177 packages; blankets, 34 boxes, 3 packages; bedding, 32 boxes, 11 barrels, 12 packages; 203 mattresses; boots and shoes, 57 boxes and packages; sundries, 3 packages; bedsteads, 3; hats and caps, 4 boxes; 8 bed-ticks; corn, 717 bushels.

FROM RICHMOND, VA.—Flour, 53 barrels; sugar, 2 barrels; milk, 2 cases; coffee, 5 boxes; beef, 10 cases; crackers, 10 boxes; soda, 1 package; muslin, 1 package; tomatoes, 1 box.

FROM CINCINNATI (per Steamer Telegraph).—Crackers, 4 boxes; coffee, 1 box; hominy, 1 hbl; sugar, ½ barrel; rice, 1 sack.

FROM CITIZENS OF GALLIPOLIS.—19 mattresses, from Prof. Hard; 5 comforts, Beall Bros.; 2 boxes sundries, Frank Cromlev; 1 package clothing, John W. Dages; 2 packages clothing, Hy. Livingston; 1 package clothing, Rev. Mr. Lewis; 1 box clothing, Rev. Mr. Moncure.

SUPPLIES PURCHASED FROM GOVERNMENT AND RELIEF FUNDS.—Flour, 165 barrels, in barrels and sacks; meat, 22 tons; beans, 2 barrels, 86 sacks; sugar, 49 barrels; tea, 8 boxes; coffee, 105 boxes; hominy, 80 barrels; rice, 35 barrels; oat meal, 7 boxes; bread, 9,650 loaves; baking powder, 21 boxes; pepper, 32 boxes; soap, 85 boxes; candles, 24 boxes; matches, 23 boxes; brooms, 30 dozen; boots and shoes, 16 cases; cheese, 47 boxes; canned goods, 24 boxes; salt, 21 barrels; fresh meat, 3,941 pounds; lard, 14 boxes; 2-bushel sacks, 80; soda, 6 boxes; stoves, 2; mattresses, 49; blankets, 48; comforts, 7; coal, 5,340 bushels,

No. 2.

RECAPITULATION OF RECEIPTS.

Meats, tierces, boxes and barrels....	347	Soda, boxes.....	7
Bread, barrels and boxes	502	Ass'd provisions, bbls, boxes, etc....	178
Crackers, barrels and boxes	302	Soap, boxes	86
Potatoes, barrels, bags and boxes....	1,221	Candles, boxes	24
Flour, barrels	734	Brooms, dozens	30
Rice, barrels and sacks.....	38	Stoves.....	5
Hominy, barrels and sacks.....	150	Clothing, boxes, bbls, pkgs, etc....	913
Beans, barrels and sacks.....	140	Blankets, cases and pkgs.....	40
Canned goods, boxes	119	Bedding	55
Coffee, boxes and barrels.....	155	Mattresses.....	271
Tea, boxes	14	Bedticks.....	8
Sugar, barrels.....	58	Bedsteads	3
Molasses, keg.....	1	Boots and shoes, cases and pkgs....	73
Cheese, boxes	84	Hats and caps, boxes	4
Corn meal, bushels.....	61	Assorted provisions and clothing,	
Oat meal, boxes	7	boxes, bbls and pkgs	191
Baking powder, boxes	21	Seamless sacks, new	80
Pepper, boxes	32	Corn, bushels	717
Salt, barrels	21	Coal, bushels	5,340
Lard, cases.....	14	Meat, fresh, lbs	3,941

No. 3.

STATEMENT OF NUMBER OF PACKAGES LOADED ON STEAMERS CHARTERED BY RELIEF COMMITTEE.

Steamer Jim Montgomery, Feb. 13, 447 pgs; Feb. 15, 89 pgs. Steamer Champion, Feb. 14, 146 pgs; Feb. 16, 35 pgs; Feb. 17, 133 pgs; Feb. 18, 92 pgs; Feb. 19, 99. Steamer Nora Belle, Feb. 14, 327 pgs; Feb. 15, 435 pgs. Steamer Chesapeake, Feb. 15, 795 pgs; Feb. 17, 328 pgs; Feb. 20, 665; Feb. 22, 979. Steamer New Era, Feb. 16, 216 pgs. Steamer Claribell, Feb. 16, 596 pgs; Feb. 19, 263. Steamer B. T. Enos, Feb. 16, 189 pgs. Steamer Lizzie Johnston, Feb. 26, 277 pgs.

Totals—Feb. 13, 447 pgs; Feb. 14, 473 pgs; Feb. 15, 1,319 pgs; Feb. 16, 1,036 pgs; Feb. 17, 461 pgs; Feb. 18, 92 pgs; Feb. 19, 362 pgs; Feb. 20, 665 pgs; Feb. 22, 979 pgs; Feb. 26, 277 pgs. Grand total, 6,111 pgs.

No. 4.

INDIVIDUAL ORDERS FILLED AT DEPOTS.

Feb. 13—Grocery Depot, 4 orders.		
Feb. 14—Grocery Depot, 8 orders.		
Feb. 18—Grocery Depot, 35 orders;	Clothing Depot, 3 orders.	Total, 38.
Feb. 19—Grocery Depot, 15 orders;	Clothing Depot, 8 orders.	Total, 23.
Feb. 21—Grocery Depot, 42 orders;	Clothing Depot, 36 orders.	Total, 78.
Feb. 20—Grocery Depot, 15 orders;	Clothing Depot, 29 orders.	Total, 44.
Feb. 22—Grocery Depot, 68 orders;	Clothing Depot, 31 orders.	Total, 99.
Feb. 23—Grocery Depot, 99 orders;	Clothing Depot, 31 orders.	Total, 130.
Feb. 25—Grocery Depot, 25 orders;	Clothing Depot, 23 orders.	Total, 48.
Feb. 26—Grocery Depot, 16 orders;	Clothing Depot, 9 orders.	Total, 25.
Feb. 27—Grocery Depot, 18 orders;	Clothing Depot, 13 orders.	Total, 31.
Feb. 28—Grocery Depot, 28 orders;	Clothing Depot, 15 orders.	Total, 43.
Feb. 29—Grocery Depot, 47 orders;	Clothing Depot, 25 orders.	Total, 72.
Mar. 1—Grocery Depot, 63 orders;	Clothing Depot, 36 orders.	Total, 99.
Mar. 3—Grocery Depot, 41 orders;	Clothing Depot, 30 orders.	Total, 71.
Mar. 4—Grocery Depot, 49 orders;	Clothing Depot, 65 orders.	Total, 114.
Mar. 5—Grocery Depot, 33 orders;	Clothing Depot, 35 orders.	Total, 68.
Mar. 6—Grocery Depot, 37 orders;	Clothing Depot, 55 orders.	Total, 92.
Mar. 7—Grocery Depot, 31 orders;	Clothing Depot, 24 orders.	Total, 55.
Mar. 8—Grocery Depot, 5 orders;	Clothing Depot, 11 orders.	Total, 16.
Mar. 10—Grocery Depot, 8 orders;	Clothing Depot, 16 orders.	Total, 24.
Mar. 11—Grocery Depot, 1 orders;	Clothing Depot, 5 orders.	Total, 6.
Total, Grocery Depot, 688 orders;	Clothing Depot, 500 orders.	Grand total, 1,188 orders.

Up to the 16th relief was given upon verbal orders, principally.

No. 5.

Goods given out for labor performed at Depots, upon orders issued by members of committees, \$98.

No. 6.

GALLIPOLIS, OHIO, February 27, 1884.

To the Board of Relief of Gallipolis, Ohio:

GENTLEMEN—By your order I took charge of the steamer New Era, and received at Carl's Coal Works one coal boat, said to contain 1,800 bushels of coal, then passed up to Camden Coal works, and purchased three floats, measured for 2,340 bushels; then dropped to Carl's, unloaded floats and returned them, and began our labor of distributing the coal along down the river, and the following is my distribution of the same:

<i>Landing.</i>	<i>Families.</i>	<i>Bus.</i>	<i>Landing.</i>	<i>Families.</i>	<i>Bus.</i>
Hudson Maddy's.....	2	50	Haskelville.....	32	655
Addison.....	5	75	Brown's.....	2	40
Clipper Mill.....	8	100	Guthrie's.....	1	20
Mouth Raccoon.....	11	225	Marks'.....	2	35
Chambersburg.....	0	0	Geo. Knight's.....	3	30
Glenwood.....	7	175	Jeff Jenkin's.....	2	40
Swan Creek.....	0	0	Crown City.....	0	0
Hannan's.....	5	105	Claud Shaw's.....	3	50
Blake's.....	1	37	Coal furnished steamer New		
Millersport.....	66	2,080	Era, 7 days, 60 bus. per day.		420
Athalia.....	6	50			
Sayers.....	2	30			
Total No. bushels coal distributed.....			Totals.....	158	4,217
Total No. families supplied.....					4,217
Average No. bushels to family.....					158
No. bushels received from Carl's works.....					26 $\frac{2}{3}$
No. bushels received from Camden works.....					1,800
					2,340
Total No. bushels.....					4,140

COST OF COAL AND EXPENSE OF DELIVERING.

4,140 bus. coal, at 5c. per bus.....	\$207 00
One hand, 6 days, at \$1.25.....	7 50
Extra labor.....	7 00
Shovel lost.....	1 50
Charter Steamer New Era (about 7 days), at \$25.....	175 00
Total expenditure.....	\$398 00
Average cost per bushel, 9 6-10 cents.	

It would only make a longer report, and I will not enter the names, only the number of families furnished. The committee could still give out coal along the line, but I think it unnecessary to do so.

I had calculated the cost of the coal on the bank, in the manner we was to distribute, to be at least twelve and a-half cents per bushel, but you see it has cost much less than that.

We had heavy wind all the time, which made it hard to land, and the river was still high in the willows, making it necessary, in nearly every instance, to let go our lines and hitch up our tow again, which took time, and the banks were so muddy that we had to take the coal high up the bank; there was so much staging to rig, and so few hands, that time was necessary, and the work of distributing could not possibly have been done sooner. My measure over-run the bank measure seventy-seven bushels.

But now it is done, I believe it has done more good to more people than any equal amount of money expended in relief. It was badly needed.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. GARDNER.

No. 7.

CORN REPORT.

Ear corn received by William Cherington.....	425 bushels.
Ear corn received by E. S. Aleshire.....	292 "

As per their reports..... 717 "

All of which was distributed to flood sufferers, upon orders issued by Charles D. Bailey, committee in charge.

No. 8.

SUPPLIES SENT TO INDIVIDUALS AND RELIEF COMMITTEES BY OUR LOCAL PACKETS.

NAME OF PLACE.	Feb. 19.	Feb. 20.	Feb. 21.	Feb. 22.	Feb. 23.	Feb. 25.	Feb. 26.	Feb. 27.	Feb. 28.	Feb. 29.	March 1.	March 3.	March 4.	March 5.	March 6.	March 7.	March 8.	March 10.	March 11.	March 13.	Total No. Pckgs.
Cheshire.....	1	4			1	19	3	1	3	2			5	29	12						105
Addison.....	1	3	4	1				21		18	1	2	9	23	4						72
Millersport.....				35	1					9			12								60
Warehouse Landing.....		10												17					1		28
Hayman's Landing.....		1	1			31		13			2	15		1	4						68
Gid Brown's Landing.....		1																			3
Hanley's Landing.....		1																			1
Burns' Landing.....		1	3			2		9							26						41
New Castle.....		1				44									5					2	52
Kaneff's Landing.....			1																		1
Middleport.....			1			14	1			4											56
Point Pleasant.....				55	67	4	7	8				10	43			1		1			197
Camden.....				66											6						72
Anderson's Landing.....															2						2
Henderson.....					19		44														63
Bladensburg.....					14		17		22		5				1				1		71
Chambersburg.....					19		2	1			39		6						1	1	68
Portsmouth.....		2			3	6															12
Ironton.....		2			3	5		1													11
Lacey's Landing.....					6																6
Blake's Landing.....					1			3			10			14							24
Proctorville.....					1	15	1			11								28			51
Athalia.....					1	4	45			9					55						114
Green Bottom.....						1							3								4
Wall's Landing.....						2															2
Augusta.....						4	2														7
Pomeroy.....						3	5	2	2	43					1						56
Glenwood.....						28					11										39
New Haven.....						53	61												3		117
Swan Creek.....						10					4		1								15
Morgan's Landing.....						11															11
Rolph's.....						2							2								4
Le Sage's.....						1	57														58
Ashton.....						3					5		22								30
McCurdy's Landing.....							23						11								34
Buffalo.....							3		3		5										11
Minersville.....							25	12							6						48
Racine.....						2		64							2	1			2	3	74
Letart.....						1					9				3			1			14
Clark's Landing.....						1			8			11		1							21
Hartford City.....						1							3	114	1					2	121
Portland.....						1															1
Mo. Raccoon.....								8							2						10
Leon.....								5		1	6										5
Catlettsburg.....								1													8
Nichols' Landing.....								3													3
Cox's Landing.....								3						1							4
Phenix Landing.....								22													22
Mercer's Bottom.....								1													1
Marietta.....								1													1
Rigg's Landing.....								1											2		3
Pollock's Landing.....										3											3
West Columbia.....										22		1									34
Syracuse.....										113					3					5	121
Wells' Landing.....											3	2				2		3			10
Neal's Landing.....																					2
Porter's Landing.....																					1
Bush's Mills.....																					3
Sample's Landing.....												1									4
Vinton.....											16	2									18
Shade River.....											44										44
Long Bottom.....											8										8
Broad Run.....											13	2									15
Coalton.....											1										1
Seahon's Coal Works.....												128	10								138
Stevens' Landing.....																					1
Sterrett's Landing.....													1			2					3

SUPPLIES SENT TO INDIVIDUALS AND RELIEF COMMITTEES—CONTINUED.

NAME OF PLACE.	Feb. 19.	Feb. 20.	Feb. 21.	Feb. 22.	Feb. 23.	Feb. 25.	Feb. 26.	Feb. 27.	Feb. 28.	Feb. 29.	March 1.	March 3.	March 4.	March 5.	March 6.	March 7.	March 8.	March 10.	March 11.	March 13.	Total No. Pkgs.
Kennedy's Landing....												1									1
Clifton.....												114	1		5						120
Farmley's Landing..												15				14					29
Crown City.....												25									25
Knight's Landing....												12									12
Blazer's Landing....												3			2						5
King's Landing.....												2									2
Mouth 16.....												1									1
Coolville.....												1									1
Mouth 18.....															3						3
Flatfoot.....															7						7
Silver Run.....															1						1
White Rock.....															5						5
Rose Bud.....															1						1
Fry's Landing.....																1					1
Simpson's Landing..																					1
Huntington.....																1					1
Gilruth's Landing....																7					7
Antiquity.....																18					18
Graham Station.....																17					17
Frost's Landing.....																	1				1
Syracuse for B. Run....																		32			32
Helpe.....																		2			2
Chilo.....						2															2
Ninety-two places....	2	27	77	159	192	278	212	83	108	280	175	206	291	207	124	55	73	7	40	26	2,622

Gallipolis Central Relief Committee:

GENTLEMEN:—Your Committee No. 3, on river transportation, have the honor to make the following official report. We had under charter the following Steamers, viz:

Steamer New Era, 10 days @ \$35.....	\$350 00	
“ “ “ 6 days @ \$25.....	150 00	
“ “ “ returning barge.....	15 00	\$515 00
Steamer Nora Belle, 3½ days @ \$30.....	105 00	
“ “ “ 2½ days @ \$40.....	100 00	
“ “ “ allowed by Central Committee for Cheshire.....	70 00	275 00
Steamer Jim Montgomery, 4 days @ \$25.....	100 00	
“ “ “ trip to Point Pleasant.....	5 00	105 00
Steamer Champion, 5 days @ \$25.....	125 00	
“ “ “ extra allowed by Central Committee.....	175 00	300 00
Steamer Claribell, 1½ days @ \$35.....	52 50	
“ “ “ 2½ days @ \$35.....	87 50	140 00
Steamer Chesapeake, 11 days @ \$25, for use of boat, the committee to pay all additional expenses.....	275 00	275 00
One large skiff to aid New Era.....	25 00	25 00

Total, not including “Chesapeake” expenses..... \$1,635 00
Also does not include coal and other expenses of the boats.

Respectfully submitted,

P. A. SANNS,
WM. KLING,
S. A. DUNBAR,
Committee.

GALLIPOLIS, OHIO, March 20, 1884.

Relief Committee, Gallipolis, Ohio:

GENTLEMEN:—Sub-Committee No. 6 hereby reports to your honorable body that they have discharged the duties devolving upon them to the best of their ability.

The dissatisfaction and strife among the people at several points where needed food and clothing were distributed by us as impartially as circumstances would admit, and the formation of new Relief Committees at or near the same locality by dissatisfied parties, have caused much trouble and annoyance.

Mr. John T. Halliday devoted most of his valuable time to the arduous duties of this committee. We would make special mention of the unceasing labor, night and day, of Mr. Silas Brosius and Chris. Schafer, of Committee No. 1, and J. T. Halliday and W. B. Trump, of Committee No. 2, in arranging and filling the requisitions of this committee.

W. G. FULLER, Ch'm.
J. M. ALEXANDER,
JOHN T. HALLIDAY.

GALLIPOLIS, OHIO, March 20, 1884.

Relief Committee, Gallipolis, Ohio:

GENTLEMEN:—Sub-Committee No. 7 submit the following report: On Friday, February 8 and 9, the Steamer Champion, Capt. J. J. Maxon, did much valuable service saving stock and other property in the bottoms, near our city.

Saturday, February 9, the Champion took provisions to Point Pleasant, W. Va., and on the 10th the Champion and Telephone took supplies to Point Pleasant, and C. Fred. Henking and S. H. Olmsted were sent on Steamer Nora Belle to Pomeroy and intermediate places with provisions, and word to the people that Gallipolis was providing cooked food, which would follow at once. On Monday, the 11th, the Steamers Jim Montgomery and New Era, were chartered, and 2,500 loaves of bread and other supplies were sent to Pomeroy and intermediate points, W. H. Harvey, S. A. Dunbar, F. Morgan, and D. H. Baldrige as committee of distribution. Monday evening the Jim Montgomery was again loaded with all the supplies that could be gathered in our city; 4,000 loaves of bread, 300 pounds of cooked corned beef, 600 pounds of cheese, 50 cooked hams, 500 pounds of crackers, with coffee, sugar, etc., contributions of the people of Gallipolis.

The Steamer New Era, in charge of P. B. Prichett, Chief of our Fire Department, was sent five miles out over the Chickamauga bottoms to the railroad at Womeldorff's Farm, to await supplies coming by railroad. The first car load from McArthur and Logan arriving Tuesday afternoon, Feb. 12th. These supplies were the same night loaded on the Steamer Jim Montgomery for her third trip to Pomeroy, A. J. Green, of the General Committee, going in charge.

From this time the Steamer New Era was kept employed bringing stores from the railroad until the flood subsided, and the road repaired so that trains could reach the city depot, and Steamers Champion, Jim Montgomery, Nora Belle, Claribell, and Chesapeake, were employed distributing the supplies at all points from Portsmouth, Ohio, to Marietta, Ohio, on both sides of the river, and up the Kanawha River, under committees of the following gentlemen, who were changed about to suit the convenience of the work and the gentlemen, the services being entirely gratuitous: A. J. Green, S. A. Dunbar, W. H. Harvey, D. A. Baldrige, Capt. Frank Morgan, E. S. Aleshire, A. W. Kerns, J. J. Maxon, John T. Hampton, W. H. Andrews, M. Mollohan, James W. Gardner. The Chesapeake volunteered two days without charge, and the Steamer B. T. Enos distributed supplies below, under A. W. Kerns, free of charge for freight or passage of the committee.

Respectfully,

W. G. FULLER, Chairman,
JOHN T. HALLIDAY,
A. J. GREEN.

MAYOR'S OFFICE, GALLIPOLIS, O., March 10, 1884.

To the General Relief Committee, Gallipolis, Ohio:

GENTLEMEN:—I have expended in purchasing relief supplies for your committee, the sum of thirteen thousand five hundred and twenty-three dollars and seventy-two cents (\$13,523.72) from the amount appropriated by the United States Government, vouchers for which have been transmitted to the Hon. Robert T. Lincoln, Secretary of War.

Yours respectfully,

J. M. ALEXANDER, Mayor.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO RELIEF FUNDS.

(From the books of Louis Baer, Treasurer.)

Private subscription in city.....		\$496 30
Advances made on supplies purchased and returned from Gov't appr....		547 70
Advances made on incidental expenses, and returned to Treasurer as not expended.....		34 08
Proceeds of potatoes sold		72 10
Proceeds of boxes sold		2 38
Through Fuller Hutsinpiiler & Co.—		
From New York	50 00	
" Delaware Chair Co	50 00	
" Chicago Varnish Co	25 00	125 00
Drummer's Concert.....		229 45
Through Hutchinson & Baldrige—		
From Wm. Mann, Jr.		25 00
Through Allemon & Henking—		
From Maddux Bros., New York	300 00	
" John Bane & Co., Zanesville, Ohio	15 00	
" Dan Talmage's Sons, New York	50 00	
" Miami Powder Co.	50 00	415 00
Through John Dages & Co.—		
From Boston, Mass.	100 00	
" Worcester, Mass.	25 00	125 00
From D. Baldrige (contributor)		1 00
" Ohio State Relief Fund		1,000 00
" E. S. Aleshire (boat fares)		5 25
" F. D. Berridge, Richmond		2 75
" J. Thos. Harbine, Xenia, O.		5 00
Through James Vanden & Son—		
From W. A. Wood, Hoosick Falls, N. Y.		50 00
Through First National Bank, Gallipolis—		
From Winslow, Lanier & Co., N. Y.		150 00
Through John T. Halliday—		
From Siloan Neighborhood Church		15 00
1884. Through J. M. Alexander, Mayor of Gallipolis—		
Feb. 13. From Philadelphia	1,000 00	
13. " New York	250 00	
14. " Philadelphia.....	2,000 00	
15. " New York.....	2,000 00	
15. " Boston	1,000 00	
15. " T. F. Seward, Orange, N. J.	5 00	
15. " Baltimore	200 00	
16. " Abroad	10 00	
16. " Baltimore.....	187 00	
16. " Baltimore.....	750 00	
18. " W. H. Love, N. Y.	50 00	
18. " R. W. Lawrence, Supt	11 88	
18. " Hartford, Conn.	250 00	
18. " Brooklyn	219 00	
18. " Concord, N. H.	200 00	
19. " J. A. Cooke, Catskill.....	25 00	
19. " H. H. Osgood, Norwich, Conn.	200 00	
19. " John W. Post, Chicopee, Mass.	10 00	
19. " Laura L. Delano, N. Y.	200 00	
19. " T. S. John, N. Y.	5 00	
19. " Baltimore	550 00	
19. " Brooklyn	271 00	
19. " Arbuckle Bros., N. Y.	50 00	

Feb. 21.	From J. R. Bland, Baltimore	400 00	
	" Brooklyn	127 00	
23.	" Mrs. J. A. Lynn, Richburg, N. Y.	51 55	
	" Mayor of Baltimore	107 99	
	" M. E. Foster	5 00	
	" Mayor of Baltimore	150 00	
26.	" Griffith & Childs, Lancaster	64 50	
	" J. S. Porter	16 50	10,366 42
Total subscriptions			\$13,667 43

EXPENDITURES.

Stationery	4 62	
Labor for handling supplies	366 13	
Steamboat charter, freight, coal, and other river expenses	2,375 46	
Sundries, comprising insurance on supplies, hotel bill, transient Relief Committee, express charges on supplies, gas bill for depots, wharfage, telegraph dispatches, janitor, and other incidentals	380 39	
Provisions and supplies	1,296 42	
Hauling supplies to depot and river	427 40	
Relief to outsiders—		
Cash to Middleport	100 00	
Transporting flood sufferers	12 75	
Cash to Syracuse	200 00	
Cash to Cheshire (saving stock)	70 00	
Cash for coal for Minersville	60 00	
Cash for coal for Syracuse	50 00	492 75
Clerk hire and office work	206 00	
Cash on hand to pay incidentals	118 26	
		\$5,667 43

The above report of expenditures includes expenses in handling Government supplies, an itemized statement of which will be found in the Report No. 1, of the committee in charge of Commissary and Quartermaster Stores. These supplies were purchased through Allemon & Henking, by Mayor J. M. Alexander, amounting to thirteen thousand four hundred and twenty-three dollars and seventy-two cents, and was handed over by Mayor Alexander to the Relief Committee of Gallipolis, and distributed by same to flood sufferers.

SUMMARY.

Total receipts	\$13,667 43
Total expenditures	5,667 43
Balance on hand	\$8,000 00

This amount will be expended on repairing the homes of flood sufferers, where persons are not able to do so themselves, and a special committee is now at work for that purpose.

LOUIS BAER, Treasurer.

GALLIPOLIS, OHIO, April 29, 1884.

To Col. W. G. Fuller, Chairman, and the Members of the General Relief Committee of Gallipolis, Ohio:

GENTLEMEN—Your special committee, to whom was referred the distribution of an unexpended cash balance, in your hands beg leave to submit its report, showing the amount of money paid out, and to whom, accompanied by the proper vouchers in each case, as follows :

Proctorville—Walker Williams; \$150.00; George T. Wilson, 50.00. Total, \$200.00.
 Guyandotte—Mary A. Smith, \$25.00.
 Athalia—J. H. Simcs, \$100.00; Harriet Hall, 115.00; R. W. Wiley, 150.00; J. M. White, 50.00; M. R. Becket, 50.00; Mary Miller, 25.00; B. Knaf, 25.00; ——— McComas, 75.00;
 Total, \$490.00

Millersport—Francis Nichols, \$100.00; J. M. Defour, 25.00; S. A. Miller, 25.00; L. S. Ansel, 10.00; Anna Varnum, 50.00; R. A. Wiley, 25.00; Lydia Shepard, 50.00; Clara Baker, 25.00; Andrew Griffith, 100.00; J. W. Dillon, 150.00. Total, \$560.00.

Glenwood, W. Va.—Henry Campbell, \$70.00.

Green Bottom, W. Va.—James C. Shaw, \$50.00.

Crown City—A. C. McClure, \$100.00.

Ohio Township—A. F. Blake, \$50.00; Nancy Morton, 20.00. Total, \$70.00.

Sampe's Landing—John Miller, \$50.00; E. T. Shepard, 50.00; Mary Small, 100.00. Total, \$200.00.

Clay Township—A. M. F. Cole, \$50.00; C. W. Jones, 35.00; Andrew Forth, 10.00; Mary Stuart, 50.00; Gilbert Northup, 25.00; Taylor Martin, 10.00; J. D. Hathaway, 70.00. Total, \$245.00.

Clipper Mill—Elijah Rood, \$20.00; Doc Cole, 25.00; Harriet Hamilton, 50.00; James Thevenin, 75.00. Total, \$170.00.

Bush's Mill—S. R. Bush, \$50.00.

Gallipolis Township—Sarah Graham, \$50.00; D. W. Davies, 200.00; S. G. Logue, 60.00; Rebecca Arrington, 25.00; Sallie Cooper, 1.00; David Conrad, 35.00; John Brown, 35.00; W. H. Johnson, 20.00; George Caloway, 10.00; Mariah Walter, 15.00; J. W. Sheets, 50.00; E. Gilmore, 25.00; Reuben Allen, 35.00; Mrs. Allen, 10.00; Mrs. E. Allen, 20.00; J. A. Black, 15.00; F. M. Allen, 20.00; Jane Jackson, 30.00; John Rothgeb, 25.00; John Walter, 15.00; Julia Bryan, 40.00; C. Allen, 15.00; George Butterfield, 15.00; Charles Small, 15.00; E. S. Aleshire, 150.00; Nancy Peck, 10.00; J. A. Carter, 15.00; Charles Davis, 10.00; William Gaines, 10.00; Mrs. Allen, 5.00; Mrs. Rotts, 10.00; Widow Allen, 15.00; Frank Guthrie, 10.00; John C. Hutspinler, 100.00; E. Willis, 25.00; William Conrad, 28.40; Armenia Henshaw, 15.00. Total, \$1,184.40.

Henderson, W. Va.—Norman Gibson, \$50.00; Hutchinson & Co., 200.00; John Gibson, 30.00; J. W. Burke, 15.00; J. A. Wilson, 50.00; William Bates, 50.00; H. A. Darst, 40.00; J. M. Burke, jr., 20.00. Total, \$455.00.

Point Pleasant—Abram Johnson, \$25.00; John S. Miller, 100.00; Thomas Blackwell, 25.00; Caswell Williams, 25.00; Samuel G. Shaw, 50.00; William Walden, 15.00; Jane King, 30.00; Alfred James, 30.00; E. W. Huspins, 15.00; John M. Reynolds, 50.00; Harriet P. Jones, 75.00; William H. Tomlinson, Mayor, 43.00; J. T. Hill, 17.00; G. W. Tippet, 50.00; — Foster, 50.00; J. B. Froeschke, 20.00; Mrs. Andrews, 15.00; M. T. Jones, 100.00; Elizabeth Heniger, 5.00; Mary Stewart, 5.00. Total, \$745.00.

Buffalo, W. V.—J. E. A. Renner, \$50.00; C. M. Pitrat, for Mrs. Jones, 50.00; Mrs. Wiatt, 25.00. Total, \$125.00.

Addison—D. A. Poindexter, \$100.00; E. V. Ramsey, 20.00; D. R. S. Shaffer, 65.00; Elliott Watson, 25.00. Total, \$210.00.

Racine—Rev. E. Sibley, \$50.00; T. Smart, 100.00; G. W. Aumiller, 75.00; Daniel Guren, 75.00; Mrs. R. McElroy, 50.00; William Blackmore, 25.00; P. M. Petrel, 50.00; Matilda Harpold, 50.00; Martin Wolf, 25.00; G. W. Augden, 25.00; B. B. McElroy, 25.00; Harris Congrove, 10.00; Emma Jenkins, 50.00; Ed. Eagers, 50.00; Abner Curtis, 15.00; George Smith, 25.00; Amanda Cooper, 25.00; Angena Boyd, 25.00; William Applegate, 15.00; Albert O. Curtis, 10.00; Casey Wolf, 30.00; Relief Committee, 400.00. Total, \$1,205.00.

Long Bottom—Susan Stark, \$15.00; Relief Committee, 760.00; E. Pickering, 125.00. Total, \$900.00.

Expenses of committee, \$136.35.

Respectfully submitted,

R. ALESHIRE,
WILLIAM NASH,
JOSEPH STAFFORD,
JAS. MULLINEUX, Jr.,
Committee.

GALLIPOLIS, April 29, 1884.

Amount reported as balance in previous report	\$8,000 00
Incidental not expended, and additional subscription	154 71
	<hr/> \$8,154 71

CONTRA.

Amount paid to special committee as per foregoing report	\$7,318 25
G. Roades, Syracuse, O.	50 00
Sundry expenses	24 15
Other appropriations, not included in above report	732 31
	<hr/> \$8,154 71

LOUIS BAER, Sec. and Treas.















